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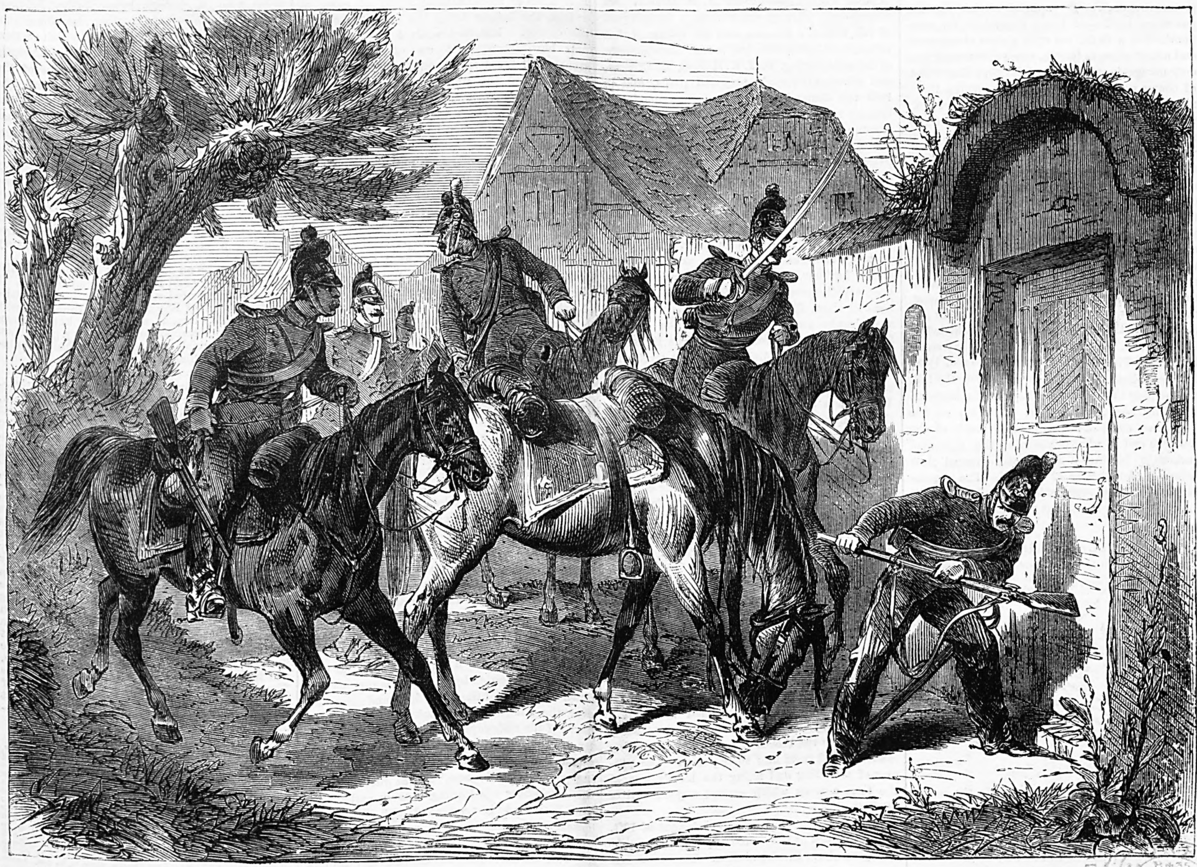
EVVIVA ROMA!

Rome is about to enter upon the third stage of its remarkable history. It is strange that the city in which the spirit of the civilization of the empire of the Cæsars lingered latest should be the last to emerge from the cloud which came down upon the face of Europe in the middle ages. Until to-day Rome has been medieval. Its life has not been the life of modern history. Pagan in the old times of its greatness, it has been the centre of a Pagan form of Christianity ever since, and while the world has moved on Rome has stood still, wrapped in the mantle of its ancient glory; living as it were by the dim light of the lamp that was lit by the conquerors who drove its children from their homes. In the architecture of the Eternal City, in its monuments, and its ruins we can trace out something of old Roman civilization; in the daily life of its people we have been accustomed to peruse as in a book, down even to these last hours, the story of what sort of an existence our forefathers led after the Greek light had gone out and the Latin torch had been extinguished. But Rome is now going to be redeemed from the performance any longer of that humiliating part. It will still be a splendid memento of several centuries of greatness before the final swarming of the Goths and Visigoths; it will yet have a good deal to show us in illustration of the curious excellence which men achieved in art while civilization was, as it were, asleep; but it is not good that we should retain among us living examples, artificially preserved beyond their time, of periods which were transitional and whose mission is over. Medievalism is a most interesting study. Every trace of it should be saved, as far as possible, from destruction and decay. But a splendid country should not be kept in darkness in order to show what effects were once produced without the aid of light, and a people capable, let us hope, of noble things, should not wear the old garments and go through the old forms, being taught all the while to believe that they are living the natural life of their own time. The movement for the redemption of Rome at length from the bondage of the dark ages is the one bright incident in the awful tragedy of these few weeks. Out of all terrible convulsions comes something to be grateful for. Papal Rome has been an incubus in Europe. Let us be thankful that we are to be permitted to see the end of it. Evviva Roma! The old city and the Latin territory round it may not achieve new greatness in our time. It is the fortune of seats of ancient glory to suffer long periods of depression. Some of the most beautiful of the ancient cities are buried in the earth, Egypt is without importance in the world, Greece is lost at once to honour and to shame. Rome, however, has chances not given to the old rivals whom it outrivalled. It is in the midst of us; it is westward enough to feel the pulsation of this side of Europe; it is the chief pride of a people in whom the elements of distinction in the world are yet discernable; and there are convulsions and reorganizations going on among the nations which may render modern Italy the opportunity she needs for securing an important place in Europe. The nation of the famous Peninsula is not wholly effete like Greece. It aspires. It seeks to learn from its younger neighbours. It has no unhealthy overweening pride in its medievalism. It understands something of the mission of great nations in the future. Let the people of Italy shake off the shackles whose strongest links have been rivetted at Rome, and there will be an honourable place for them in the

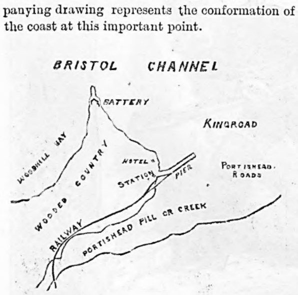


A PATROL OF BAVARIAN LIGHT HORSE. (*See page* 179.)

grand march forward. They have something to teach as well as to learn. The Teutonic nations have made a few mistakes which the Latins may correct. Hitherto the two races have been moving always on different lines, under separate leaderships. Two churches, the Roman and the Greek, bearing, it is remarkable to note, the very names of the two great eras of ancient civilization, have held the keys of the consciences of nearly all the European families other than Teutonic. Their names and traditions are classic, their religion is medieval. The second fall of Rome, occurring under our own eyes, is an event of far-reaching promise, for it will shake the authority of the old leaders, and open up, we may anticipate, a way by which the Southern and Eastern races may come to a better understanding of the genius of modern progress and true civilization. Then, better than hitherto, they may teach us what they know, and each may gather strength from the other. The solution of the "Roman Question" appears almost a small matter by the side of the great events of the War in Europe, but we may live to see it regarded as something more momentous in its consequences than the overturning of imperialism in France, the consolidation of the States of Germany, or the aggrandisement of the Kingdom of Prussia.

PORTISHEAD PIER AND RAILWAY.

Across the two centre pages of this paper appears an engraving representing the new Pier at Portishead, along which, down to the very steam-boat landing stage, runs a branch line of railway from Bristol. It is a picturesque scene, but the great work recently finished is even more useful than picturesque. It gives Bristol what Bristol has always wanted—a speedy and at all times available system of maritime communication. The ancient town has, from times running far back into antiquity, always been a great centre of sea trade, but it has always laboured under the drawback—a most serious one for passenger traffic—of being dependent for communication with the sea upon a river about seven and a half miles in length, narrow, tortuous, and only navigable at or about high tide, a time which of course varies daily, rendering anything like a regular service impossible, and in winter half the high tides are during the hours of darkness. In order to avoid inconvenience it was necessary to make a port for Bristol in the Bristol Channel, and by means of a railway and a pier this has been accomplished—at great cost and by dint of no ordinary enterprise, but the outlay has not been greater than was warranted by the business that may be done; and the enterprise could hardly have been more worthily employed. Outside the seven and half miles of fair looking but impracticable Avon running between Bristol Quay and the Channel, the navigator, after rounding the left point and moving into the almost open sea, sees a little bay under a hill. From a point in this bay starts Portishead Pier, running out into the sea, lying for some distance under the shelter of the hill, and helping to convert the bay into a harbour. The Pier and Harbour are, therefore, on the south-east coast of the Bristol Channel, at the southern end of what is known as the Kingroad anchorage leaving a deep water channel clear inshore under shelter of the hill. The accompanying drawing represents the conformation of the coast at this important point.



The Bristol Channel flows nearer to the centre of England than any other sea inlet, and the deep water of the Channel is closer under shore at Portishead than at any other point. Within a radius of 150 miles—a run of only from three to four hours by rail—from Portishead, lie London Penzance, Southampton, Sheffield, Exeter, Lincoln, Manchester, Leeds, Birmingham, Derby, the pottery and hardware centres, and the coal and iron districts, and to each and all of these is a complete railway system running from the landing steps of Portishead Pier. From this pier which has been recently opened for traffic, steam vessels ply regularly every day at certain hours, altogether independently of tide, to Ilfracombe and Cardiff, and at short fixed intervals to Cork, Dublin, Waterford and Tenby, starting on the arrival of trains at the pier and bringing through passengers from the Great Western Railway, the Midland, and the Bristol and Exeter. Since the opening of the Pier there has been an increase of something like five-hundred per cent. upon the steam-boat traffic to and from the North Devon and Welsh ports via Bristol. This route to Ireland has special advantages, for passengers from Paddington can make the whole run in twenty hours, for a first class fare of about 40s., while from Birmingham and the Midlands the run is shorter and cheaper still, and in the whole journey there is only one change—which is a very easy one—from the railway carriage at the end of the pier to the steam vessel lying alongside.

To the traveller taking this route the change from the old mode of getting away from Bristol to the new is very striking. Until now he had to scramble for his luggage at Bristol station, and jolt three miles through Bristol in a cab, counting himself fortunate if he did not miss the steamer; and then there was the paddle at a comparatively slow rate down the inconvenient seven miles of river. Under the most favourable circumstances the journey occupied half as much time again as it does now, and was considerably more expensive.

Portishead is a natural landing place. It was a maritime port in the days of the Romans, and, curiously enough, it was for a long time a place of export of iron and coals to Wales. The harbour has been used from time immemorial as a place of refuge for vessels in heavy gales in the Channel, its sheltered position rendering it the safest place and at the same time the easiest of access in the Channel, in all weathers. Soon after the opening of the Great Westerm Railway to Bristol the advantages of Portishead as a railway harbour terminus attracted attention, and various projects were started. The first complete harbour scheme was that of Mr. W. C. Mylne in 1828. In 1839 there was a congress of deputies from the various municipal, maritime and commercial bodies in Bristol to consider what should be done for the improvement of the Port, when the proposal of a Pier at Portishead was adopted, and the making of plans was intrusted to Mr. J. K. Brunel. An atmospheric railway unfortunately formed part of Mr. Brunel's scheme, and the failure of that principle of locomotion led to the abandonment of the undertaking. Sir J. K. McNeil, Mr. Croome, and others afterwards prepared plans, and in 1863 the demand for low water accomodation became so pressing that Mr. J. R. Maclean's assistance was called in, half-a-dozen of the leading merchants came to his support, a company was formed, an Act of Parliament was obtained, the contract was given to Mr. Treadwell, and in 1867 the Railway was completed. Meanwhile the Pier was rapidly proceeded with; the first half was finished in 1869 and the second half early this year. The only part of the undertaking not yet completed is the harbour, the dredging of which is, however, rapidly proceeding. The whole enterprise has cost about £300,000. The Railway and Pier are already serving a traffic at the rate of 250,000 passengers, producing a gross income of £10,000 a year. Additional harbour works, including a floating dock, thirty-two acres in extent, graving docks, &c., are in contemplation. The Pier is constructed of concrete blocks to the extent of 200 feet, and of timber for the remainder of its length, the timber portion starting from the stone nearly at right angles and projecting into the Channel, with one side to a considerable extent land-sheltered. The concrete blocks of which the Pier is built are 8 feet by 4 feet, by 3, and each weighs 8 tons. They were made on the site of the works, composed of sand raised in the neighbourhood, Portland cement, broken stone, and water. The concrete is similar to that used in the construction of the Admiralty Pier at Dover. The ingredients were first mixed on a small platform and then shovelled into a wooden mould-box, where they were allowed to remain about two days, by which time they had become sufficiently hard to retain their shape. The sides of the moulds were then knocked away and the blocks were exposed to the atmosphere and became hardened in about a month. They were then lifted upon trucks and run out upon the Pier staging, where a travelling crane lowered them into their places. The process of moulding and fixing the blocks was at the time a work which excited a good deal of interest.

The stone Pier commences at a height of 10ft. from the beach at the shore end; at the extremity it is 35ft. above the foundation. The blocks rest upon a rock foundation. Above these runs a parapet of masonry, on the seaward side, about 3ft. in height, surmounted by a stone coping. On the Pill (sheltered) side is an open timber balustrade. The footway on the seaward side is formed chiefly of the upper surface of the concrete blocks. The footway on the inner side is of wood, and underneath is the cattle way, constructed so that the animals may pass along the entire length of the Pier and jetty beneath the deck without obstruction. At the angle of the Pier on the base of the cattle walk additional strength is obtained by a double width of concrete blocks. The Pier at the angle is, in fact, a solid structure of concrete 30ft. by 40ft. The foundation upon which the Pier is laid is the rock. The soil consists of stiff blue clay, resting on marl, below which is the sandstone rock. The jetty rests on piles, which are driven into rock, some of them as deep as 7ft. From the spaces between the outer and inner rows of piles the clay and soft soil has been excavated, and upon the solid substratum two walls of stone, 5ft. in thickness are built up inside of each row of piles. The space between these walls is then filled in with loose stone. In the construction of the jetty, as it now stands, as much as 20,000 tons of limestone has been used. There are four rows of main piling in the width, and two rows of fender piling and two of sheet piling, with four rows of longitudinal waling timbers, and the same number of rows of cross-ties, with two diagonal braces to each ten feet bay. The piles, walings, and cross-ties are of the minimum dimensions of 13 inches square. The deck of the jetty rests upon joists 5½ inches by 11 inches. The deck planking (pine) is four inches thick, except where the rails run; here there is a bedding of four-inch English oak. The whole of the pile heads are secured to the beams by massive iron brackets and straps, and the joists are notched and bolted down. At the end of the 200 feet run—the extremity of the first section of the jetty—is a cluster of between 30 and 40 whole baulk timbers, which originally formed the support of the pier head, and which have been retained for the purpose of strengthening the work. Some of these timbers are 16 inches square. From this point the jetty has been extended a length of 340 feet. This extension was commenced in the autumn of 1869, and the jetty in its completed form was opened to the public on Easter Monday. The second section has been constructed on the same principle as the first. Up to the level of high water mark of mean tides is solid stone from the rock foundation throughout the entire length of the jetty, while at the counterforts and at the head of the Pier there is an additional width of stone of 8 feet, the height being the same throughout the course. External walls 5 feet in thickness have been built up of large picked stones well fitted and bedded. The Pier and jetty are of the uniform width of 30 feet. The balustrading of the jetty is formed of the solid pile heads, which terminate at a height of 3 feet from the deck level. On the western side are massive wooden hand-rails, which can be removed for the purpose of making gangways. On the eastern side are a double row of chains, which may also be removed without difficulty. The bulk of the steamboat traffic is worked on the eastern side of the jetty, where there are as many as twenty-four separate passenger landings at different levels and at different points in the length of the Pier below the upper deck, and there are also sixteen cattle landings similarly distributed. The passenger landings communicate with each other and with the deck by convenient timber stairways. Communication is provided between the cattle landings by means of inclined planes, with cross battens to prevent slipping, gates being so placed as to leave the way to the cattle pens on shore, and no other, open from the landing place that might happen to be in use. There are also eight landings which may be used for passengers or cattle on the western side. The Pier and jetty are provided with a level cattle gangway, for communication between the different landings, of a total length of 680 feet, below the passenger deck. On the upper deck of the Pier are two line of rails, with crossings and switches between them, for the purpose of transferring goods from the steamer to the railway and *vice versa*. A five-ton steam crane, which also runs upon the rails and can be taken from side to side of the Pier at pleasure, has likewise been provided. Water has been laid on the entire length of the Pier for the supply of vessels, and there is a service gas to the end. The Pier is lighted by globular lamps, carried down the centre of the upper deck, and suspended over the gangways and stairways below. The heads of the stairways are closed by hatches when trucks or carriages are required to be run over them. On the deck of the Pier are short mooring-post or "mushrooms," and at intervals along the campsheer are leading sheaves and shocks. The Pier-head is very solid and substantial. Trucks and carriages are at present transferred to the Pier by means of turntables, communicating with the shore line, but the company are now engaged in getting out the foundation for a wharf-wall, to form the face of an embankment which will fill up the angle on the southern side of the Pier. Upon this embankment rails will be laid, so that ere long trucks and carriages will be enabled to run direct to the jetty without the intervention of the turntables. The embankment will be carried out to such a distance as to allow of a clear space of 24 feet between the outer rail and the edge of the wall. This space will be used for the purposes of a wharf. The excavations for widening and deepening the Pill in this particular spot are now actively proceeding; a powerful steam dredge, with a set of Hopper barges, is clearing away the mud at the rate of 1,600 cubic yards per diem. When completed, a minimum depth of 6 feet and a maximum of 50 feet will be obtained alongside the Pier. With regard to the present accommodation afforded by the Pier and jetty, vessels may now run alongside and discharge during ten out of the twelve hours at springtide, and at all times of neaps; when the works for deepening the water-way now in progress are completed the Pier will be virtually independent of the tide, as there will then be always sufficient water for any Channel steamer to approach the Pier with safety. From all stations on the Great Western, Midland, and Bristol and Exeter Railways, through tickets are issued to the destinations of the steamers running from Portishead Pier. The trips for which the railway companies issue time-bills are to Ilfracombe, Lynmouth, Cardiff, Newport, Swansea, Cork, Dublin, Waterford, Tenby, &c. The construction of this Pier, and the opening of this greatly increased railway communication, have given an impetus to other port and railway enterprises in the Bristol Channel. Last Session a bill was obtained for the construction of a line of railway from Ilfracombe to Barnstaple, completing the system of railways from Ilfracombe to all parts of Devon and Cornwall, and both Ilfracombe and Swansea are contemplating the construction of improved means of landing from the Portishead boats.

Portishead has grown quite a popular place of resort in consequence of these interesting works and the great increase of traffic. The town itself is a pretty watering-place, eleven and a half-miles from Bristol by rail, the branch line having stations at Clifton Bridge, Pill, and Portsbury. The line follows for some miles the windings of the Avon. Among the spots of particular interest on the route is Portbury, which is an old Roman station, and contains the ruins of a priory and an old church worth seeing. Portishead is very picturesque, and is favoured with an equable climate and pure and invigorating air. It is provided with a capital hotel, baths, lodging-houses, &c., and it is the starting place for several pleasant excursions. The fine hill which shelters the harbour is densely wooded, rising abruptly out of the sea, and commanding views of the Channel from the North Devon Foreland, the mountain coast of Wales, Kingroad, and the River Severn to and beyond the Wynd Cliff and Aust. A small fort stands on the north-west point of the hill-promontory, commanding the channel. It was taken from the Royalists by the Parliamentarians in 1645. Recently it has been repaired by Government, and armed with a battery. The hill slopes overlooking the sea are studded with modern villas. Portishead church is an interesting old structure, and the town court-house is a curious example of 16th century domestic architecture.

There can be no doubt about the success of the Portishead Pier and Railway as a speculation. It has already created a new traffic on the south-western shores of England, and as the advantages which it offers become more widely known it can hardly fail to be appreciated as a very great boon to the commercial and pleasure seeking populations of the Midlands and the South.

Drifting to Sea.—While the schooner Enterprise was on her voyage from Troon to Cork, with a cargo of coals, the man on the look-out noticed at 7.10 in the evening, while passing Waterford Harbour, a little object in the distance. On informing the skipper he brought his glass to bear upon it, and discovered that it was a small open boat drifting to sea, containing but one man, who was waving a white hankerchief. The skipper immediately put about his vessel and bore down upon it, reaching the drifting boat at about 8.30. With some difficulty—for a heavy sea was running at the time—the occupant of the boat was got on board the Enterprise. He was greatly exhausted. His story was, that he left the county Wexford coast, and went out a-boating; that a sudden squall caught his sail and capsized the boat. After much difficulty he succeded in catching the capsized boat, and righting her, but on getting into her found that all his gear had been carried away. He was thus left for six hours at the mercy of the waves. Seeing the Enterprise in the distance he exhibited signals of distress, which fortunately were seen. His name was Timothy Curran. In addition to the anxiety of mind, he had for six hours been sitting in his wet clothing, and was well nigh distracted when relieved.

The Place of Refuge, during this hot weather, STEELE'S HAIRCUTTING SALOONS. The Largest and Coolest in the three Kingdoms. Extra Assistants to meet the large demands for Shampooing with eggs, &c. Streams of warm, tepid, and cold water—a delightful operation—a necessity and a luxury. Moderate charges. The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair, Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloth Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell*, *Bone*, *Ivory*, *Horn*, and *Vulcanite*, from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIR CUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New Street, Birmingham. [591

OUR WAR PICTURES.

Such an immense amount of history has been crowded into seven or eight weeks that if nothing more of importance were to happen during this campaign it would take a long time to afford the world anything like full information of what has been going on. The daily newspapers have, no doubt, done wonders in this way. The war news and war comments in the *Times* alone since the Imperial declaration of war in July would fill a dozen ordinary-sized duodecimo volumes; and yet fresh particulars of the war between the battle of Woerth and the battle of Sedan keep arriving, and will continue to arrive for a long time to come. And if those great daily sheets fail to keep pace with events, how shall we in our picture pages? We could go on presenting engravings illustrating the six or seven weeks campaign till the breaking out of the next European war, and not exhaust all the scenes of interest. We hope it will not seem to be our duty to carry to such lengths our pictorial history of the Franco-Prussian campaign, but we are far from feeling ourselves relieved at present from the task. Sketches keep coming faster than we can find room for them in our pages. Some of them have had already to wait their turn, and we have blocks held over for future publication which would be very interesting to our readers now, close upon the occurrences which they pourtray, had we but space in which to print them. Complaint, however, will hardly be made against us us on that score. For several weeks the greater part of our journal has been occupied with war pictures, and we present a set this week enough to satisfy all the public eagerness for scenes of military life and the battle field. Separately, in picture pages and in other columns this week, we have given information or explanations with respect to six war illustrations, and there are four others, two or three of which seem to require brief mention. Of the spirited sketch on our first page we need say nothing more than that it represents a party of Bavarian scouts. The positions of the men explain the scene. Their duty is a dangerous one. They have to gain information in advance and to make such arrangements as may be possible for the coming forward of the great army. Our engraving is from a sketch by O. Fikentscher, a German artist. The large picture on page 180 shows the Prussian mitrailleuse in several positions. In Berlin the "mitrailleuse" is the technical name for this remarkable field piece, but the common German title is "Kugelspritze," which, literally interpreted, means "bullet-squirt." There is some slight difference between this and the French mitrailleuse, but there has been a greater difference in the modes of handling them in the field than in the machines themselves. As the Crown Prince said after the battle of Woerth, the Prussians generally bring their cannon more to the front than the French, and so do more execution. There are two pictures on page 189, but they do not need much explanation. The first represents the extraordinary scene when a number of scoundrels, for some reason which has never been satisfactorily explained, attacked the Parisian firemen at their barracks on the Boulevard de Villette. That fire station is a sort of barracks for about 150 men of the service for extinguishing conflagrations. On a Sunday afternoon, two days before the battle of Gravelotte, there were fourteen of these firemen in the guard-room, under the charge of a lieutenant and a corporal, when a band of sixty or seventy men came past singing the Marseillaise. Arrived in front of the station they hushed the Marseillaise, and shouted "Vive la Republique." A disturbance ensued, the rabble made a rush at the station, as if to seize arms, and in the scuffle the sentinel fell with a dagger thrust in his chest, the corporal was struck with three bullets from a revolver, and the mob seized some rifles which stood by the wall. A crowd soon assembled, sergeants de ville rushed up, and the rioters, attempting to escape, fired in every direction: one person fell dead, another was wounded, and a child six years old, playing in the street, was killed. Soon some forty or fifty persons were captured, some of whom were innocent. Since then a very severe judment has been executed on several of the rioters, on some a lighter sentence has been passed, and the remainder, against whom there was no evidence, have been set at liberty. The only other engraving to mention depicts the refusal of the town of Toul to surrender at the demand of the enemy. That was a week or two ago, but within the last few days the scene has been repeated. Toul still holds out heroically.

THE WAR.

The first stage of the great Franco-Prussian War having been brought to an end by the battle of Sedan, a fortnight has passed over without any serious conflict. Up to September the 1st this war was a war between King William I. and the Emperor Napoleon III., it is now a war between the Kingdom of Prussia and the French Republic, and though the French may be inspired with fresh courage by the change, it can hardly be expected that their enemies will look upon them in a more favourable light, or treat them with more consideration because the Empire is at an end. King William is not fond of Republics, and the Count Von Bismarck regards them with the most supreme contempt. Three or four days ago the special correspondent of the *Standard* had an interview with the Minister President, in the course of which his Excellency spoke of the new French Ministry, with M. Jules Favre at its head, with irresistible humour and derision. There is no important battle for us to report in this week's summary of the campaign; but there are many things to note in connection with the heroic resistance of the French towns under siege, the advance of the German army upon Paris, and the preparations of France to defend itself against the invaders outside and inside the walls of the capital. M. Ledru Rollin has followed Louis Blanc and Victor Hugo to Paris. In that city on Saturday the following was published:—

The Constituent Assembly will be composed of 750 members. The preamble of the decree convoking the people in its Comitia, says:—"In proclaiming the Government of the National Defence, we have ourselves defined the object we had in view. The Executive Power had fallen to the ground: what had commenced in a *coup d'etat* had ended in a desertion. We have but seized again the helm which slipped from powerless hands. But Europe requires to be enlightened, it is necessary that she should know by means of irrefragable proofs that the whole of France is with us; it is necessary that the invader should meet on its road not only the obstacle of an immense city resolved to perish rather than surrender, but also the whole people, upstanding, well organised, and represented by an Assembly capable of bearing to every place, in spite of all disasters, the living soul of the country"

On the previous day the sympathy of the Republicans in Spain was strongly expressed in favour of the French Republic:

The Republican Directory have issued a manifesto to the French people drawn up by Senor Emile Castelar. The manifesto says:—"The peoples of the present century desire to prevent the return of the barbarous age of conquests, nor will they ever agree to a decrease, however little, of the territory of France, that common patrimony of universal liberty."

Strasburg still holds out. A sortie was made a few days ago in which a considerable number of Prussians were killed, but there is no confirmation of the French report that 10,000 were killed and wounded, nor is the story probable. The investing army is said to amount to 40,000 men, and the garrison to 8000, composed as follows:—4000 Garde Nationale Sédentaire, 2000 Garde Mobile, 1500 regular infantry, and 60 Spahis and Turcos.

An order of General Trochu enjoined the inhabitants of the military zone of Paris to evacuate the localities occupied by them.

The *Journal de Paris* states that the Duc d'Aumale and Duc de Chartres arrived in Paris on the morning after the revolution, and went to M. Jules Favre demanding a post in the defence of Paris. M. Favre declared, in the name of the Government, that their presence might be wrongly interpreted, and he appealed therefore to their patriotism, and requested them to depart. Thereupon the Princes left Paris.

A letter of M. Rochefort has been published in all the journals, stating that at this moment all opinions ought to be silent, and all citizens ought to be united against the enemy. "An odious article, headed 'Reaction,' and signed General Cluseret, being nothing else but an exhortation to civil war, has been published in the *Marseillaise* of this morning. Let me remind the public that I have no longer any connection with the *Marseillaise*."

The *Journal Officiel* publishes a letter from Dr. Kern, the Swiss envoy in Paris, announcing that Switzerland recognises the French Republic, and expressing a hope that the Republic will be able shortly to procure for France the blessings of an honourable peace, and to consolidate for ever liberty and Democratic institutions. A letter from Chevalier Nigra has been also published, in which he informs M. Jules Favre that he has received instructions to keep up relations with the Provisional Government in every way conformable to the sympathies existing between their two countries.

On Monday evening M. Thiers left Paris for London with a special mission from the French Government, and will go afterwards to St. Petersburgh and Vienna. He arrived at Charing Cross Railway Terminus at a quarter-past six on Tuesday morning. M. Thiers was accompanied by five ladies, and four cabs having been engaged for the conveyance of passengers and luggage, the party was driven in the first instance to Claridge's Hotel. Neither there, however, nor at one or or two other hotels at which application was made, could accommodation be obtained, and eventually an order was given to drive to the French Embassy. At one o'clock, on Tuesday, Earl Granville called upon M. Thiers at the Embassy; and, at a later hour, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone also made a call.

On Sunday the Prussians summoned the town of Soissons to surrender. The Commandant replied that he would rather blow up the place, a reply which was approved by the inhabitants.

Important news from Italy and Rome was published on Monday, indicating that the deposition of the Pope as a temporal Sovereign, and the annexation of Rome to the Kingdom of Italy is imminent. We quote some of the items:—

The *Opinione* of Sunday publishes news from Rome, stating that at Terracina and Velletri an address to the King of Italy was being signed, inviting him to order the Italian troops to enter the Roman territory. The Pontifical troops will retire as soon as the Italian troops shall have crossed the frontier. The Pope has been solicited to leave Rome, and go on board an English frigate. What resolution the Pope will take is as yet unknown. The *Official Gazette* announces that, on the proposition of a Council of Ministers, the King gave orders to the Royal troops this (Sunday) morning to enter the Pope's territory. Signor San Martino yesterday had an audience of the Pope, to whom he presented a letter from the King of Italy, in which the hope was expressed that the Pontifical troops would avoid all conflict with those of Italy. Intelligence from Rome announces that the Pope is preparing a formal protest against the entry of the Italian troops into the Papal territory, but has nevertheless given orders to his troops not to resist them.

The German army, to the number of nearly 300,000 men, had arrived within twenty-five miles of Paris in the middle of this week. Great confidence is placed in General Trochu's ability and firmness as a commander, and he appears to have at least 300,000 soldiers in Paris, though the greater part of them are only raw recruits.

The town of Toul has again refused to surrender, and has made a sortie, killing many Prussians. Montmedy also holds its own. The town of Laon surrendered on Friday. The following is the Prussian official report:—

After the conclusion of the capitulation the 4th company of the 4th rifle battalion occupied the citadel. As the last man of the Mobile Guards left the citadel the enemy, in contravention of the capitulation, blew up the powder magazine, causing great destruction both in the town and fortress. Duke William of Mecklenburg Schwerin was bruised, and 95 riflemen and 300 Mobile Guards were either killed or wounded.

The Prussians declare that the explosion was an act of treachery on the part of the French, but there is no proof in support of the allegation. Most probably it was an accident.

The following are items of later news than that given above with respect to Rome and Italy:—

The brigade Savona, passing through Papal territory (Monday) met with an enthusiastic reception at Aprano. General Bixio's camp was last (Sunday) night at Montefiascone, the garrison of the place having withdrawn without striking a blow. Italian troops occupy the town of Bagnorea, where twenty Zouaves and officers surrendered. The Italian troops are (Monday) marching forward. The Papal troops have cut the railway between Ceccano and Frosinone. General Cadorna has issued a proclamation addressed to the Romans, assuring them that he does not bring war but peace and order, and will leave the administration to them. He says:—"The independence of the Holy See will not be violated." At Messina, Catania, and other towns enthusiastic demonstrations have taken place, the people shouting everywhere, "Viva il Re!" The commander of the native Papal forces has been arrested because he refused to fight. Several other communes are taking part in the insurrection. The *Opinione* of this evening says a crowd assembled in the streets of Rome on Sunday on learning the news of the entry of Italian troops into Pontifical territory The police did not interfere. Signor Lanza received a deputation from the Roman refugees in Florence, requesting him to convey to the King the expression of their gratitude for the deliverance of the Roman provinces. The *Official Giornale di Roma* publishes an extract from the letter addressed by King Victor Emmanuel to the Pope, and appends the following remark—"It would be useless to add that the Pope has declared against all the propositions of King Victor Emmanuel."

The Pope, who was to have gone to Malta on board an English vessel, decided yesterday (Monday) to remain at the Vatican. His Holiness has called together the members of the Diplomatic Body, in order to protest before them against the entry of the Italian troops, who are now (Tuesday) within a few miles of Rome.

There is intelligence of preparations for war in Russia. A St. Petersburgh correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* says:—

"Military preparations are, indeed quietly, but with undiminished zeal, urged on. A number of horses for the completion of the artillery brigades are already purchased, and with a merchant a contract exists on account of the delivery of 200,000 puds of lead. There are also ordered at the manufactory of Nobel 800 mitrailleuses, which must be delivered on the first of October. Every brigade of infantry is to have six mitrailleuses. Also six parks of field telegraphs are to be constructed. At the artillery laboratory there have been since the 13th of August, by day and night working, 6,500 cartridges daily manufactured and delivered to the amunition magazines.

The *Journal de St. Petersburgh* in an article on the mission of M. Thiers, says:—"It is to be hoped that at the conclusion of his mission M. Thiers will be able to inculcate into France convictions as to what solution will be most favourable to her. To effect this, it will be necessary for M. Thiers to relinquish many of his tendencies and convictions. This would be a great example to France, where the influence of M. Thiers, as this mission proves, is now greater than ever."

Paris has been diligently employing the short time left her for preparation, and is fortifying and drilling with the utmost energy. Many of the woods and houses outside the walls have already been destroyed. A hundred and thirty battalions of the National Guard were reviewed on Friday. Large numbers of quiet, sturdy provincials have marched in within the last few days, and create a very favourable impression on all beholders. The estimate of 300,000 men for the garrison of Paris has been officially confirmed. All tradesmen possessing petroleum are ordered to report themselves at the Hotel de Ville.

At the demonstrations made before the American Legation last (Monday) night, Mr. Washburn is stated to have said:—"Like you, I believe that the two great Republics ought to remain united before monarchial Europe. Under the actual circumstances you have specially gained the support of the United States; but, in consequence of relations with other Powers and of the great distance between us, my personal opinion is that you must reckon more upon moral than active support." The speech was greeted with loud cheers.

The *Electeur Libre* says that Mr. Washburn demanded an authorisation from his Government to intervene semi-officially between the belligerents, to which the American Government replied that in view of the disposition of Prussia all steps in that direction were now useless, as Count von Bismarck declined at the present moment all intervention.

The following are our latest items:

An Italo-Prussian agreement has finally been concluded. Consequently, the Italian occupation of Roman territory commenced yesterday (Monday). Italy guarantees the personal security of the Pope and cardinals. This arrangement is to facilitate the suppression of republicanism in France and its extension to Italy. The other Powers declined all interference, *pro* or *con*.

The ambassadors of England, Austria, Spain, the Papal Nuncio, and the Dutch Chargé d'Affaires have intimated in cordial letters to M. Jules Favre that they will remain in Paris until further orders.

Communication by rail between Paris and Lyons has been suspended, as a precautionary step, in consequence of an engagement which took place between some Uhlans and Francs-Trailleurs near Montereau. The former were repulsed with a loss of ten killed and ten wounded.

It seems highly probable that the recent events in Paris will lead to the proclamation of a Republic at Madrid.

WAR ITEMS

The news of the German victories has produced unprecedented depression in the south of Ireland. The people are much more affected than by the failure of Fenianism, and the Nationalists say it is all over with Ireland since France is defeated.

The Siege of Strasburg.—The *Débats* says that the two moving spirits of the defence of Strasburg are the heroic Ulrich, commandant of the city, and General Barral, in command of the artillery, which, since the commencement of operations, has defied the the efforts of the besiegers. It is said that General Barral, sent to defend Strasburg after the investment of that city by the enemy, got into the place in disguise. So well did he conceal his identity that he was actually taken before his old comrade Ulrich as an emissary of the Prussians.

Marshal MacMahon has addressed to the French Ministry a letter, dated Porte-au-Bois, September 8, in which he announces that he had received from the Prussian Government authority to be removed to that place. He adds that within five or six weeks, when his wounds permit, he shall ask to be placed in some German town.

From the Wreck.—On Saturday, one of the Great Eastern Company's steamers, from Antwerp, arrived at Harwich, bringing over part of the Emperor's equipage. It consisted of two carriages—one a *fourgon*—about twenty horses, and as many attendants, the majority of whom wore the Emperor's livery. They all left by the 5·35 train for London, *en route* for Hastings.

Letter from Marshal MacMahon.—Marshal MacMahon, who has been residing at Pourn-aux-Bois, near Bouillon, at the château of the Mayor, has sent to the *Organe* of Namur the following interesting note: "Marshal MacMahon was wounded on the 1st of September, at six in the morning, at the very commencement of the last battle, in which he held no command. It was by order of the Minister of War, Comte de Palikao, and of the Committee of Defence that he executed the march which proved so fatal to the arms of France. This is what infallibly happens when people take upon them to direct the movements of distant armies from the closet. In these circumstances one can draw up a general plan, but one cannot descend to details; and this is what General Cousin de Montauban forgot. Marshal MacMahon's intention was to fall back on Paris, after having reorganised the army so unfortunately undone at Sedan. He was not permitted to accomplish his wise project. As soon as the state of his health will permit, Marshal MacMahon will not fail to publish proofs that he cannot be considered responsible for the immense disaster at Sedan. Between a victorious army and the frontier of a neutral nation there was no escape if an accident occured."

The *Magdeburg Gazette*, taking the same view as the *Cologne Gazette*, that battles are not now more sanguinary than formerly, gives some additional figures in support of that conclusion. It states that at Lutzen 8,000 Prussians out of 46,000 were killed or wounded, at Bautzen 18,000 men out of 96,000, at Dennewitz 9,000 out of Bulow's 50,000, at Möckern 5,680 out of York's 21,000, at Leipsic, 1761, 45,775 out of 300,000 allies. So, again, at Prague, 1757. Frederick the Great lost 16,500 men out of 64,000; at Kollin and Kunersdorf his losses were still larger. At Leuthen, 5,000 out of 32,000; at Zorndorf, 11,000 out of 32,000; at Torgau, 14,000 out of 44,000. Blucher lost at Ligny 12,500 out of 83,000, and Wellington, at Waterloo, 13,000 out of 67,000, the Prussians losing 6,700 out of 30,000. Blucher and Wellington lost, in the four days' fighting, 39,000 out of 200,000. Before Metz, on the other hand, the two armies lost, at most, one man in nine or ten, while half the number placed *hors de combat* were only slightly wounded. "We know," it says, "that these comparisons will not mitigate the grief of those who are mourning the dead, but they may guard us from the error that we have had heavier sacrifices than our fathers. No; the sacrifices, terrible as they are, are smaller, while the gain for our Fatherland will be greater."

The German "Feld Post."—A correspondent of the *Times* gives the following particulars of the manner in which they conduct the postal service in connexion with the battle field. He says: "The Post, which is without any exception the greatest blessing that a Government ever gave an army, is composed as follows: Each Corps d'Armée has a head-postmaster, under whom are the following staff: Seven clerks attached to the office of the head-quarters, four at the head-quarters of each division, and three with the artillery of each corps. Besides this, he has fourteen letter-sorters and seventeen postillions. The head-quarter staff post of a corps d'armée has two wagons, one chaise, and one fourgon. The first ply with letters, the second carries the post-master and his second when on the march, as well as small parcels; and the third carries the luggage, such as tables, chairs, sorting-boxes, &c., necessary for the despatch of business. Each division of each corps has the same equipment, with the exception of the chaise. In order to give additional facilities to the soldier to write to his friends, the authorities have issued cards to each regiment, on one side of which is printed,

'Feld Post Correspondenz Karte.

'To

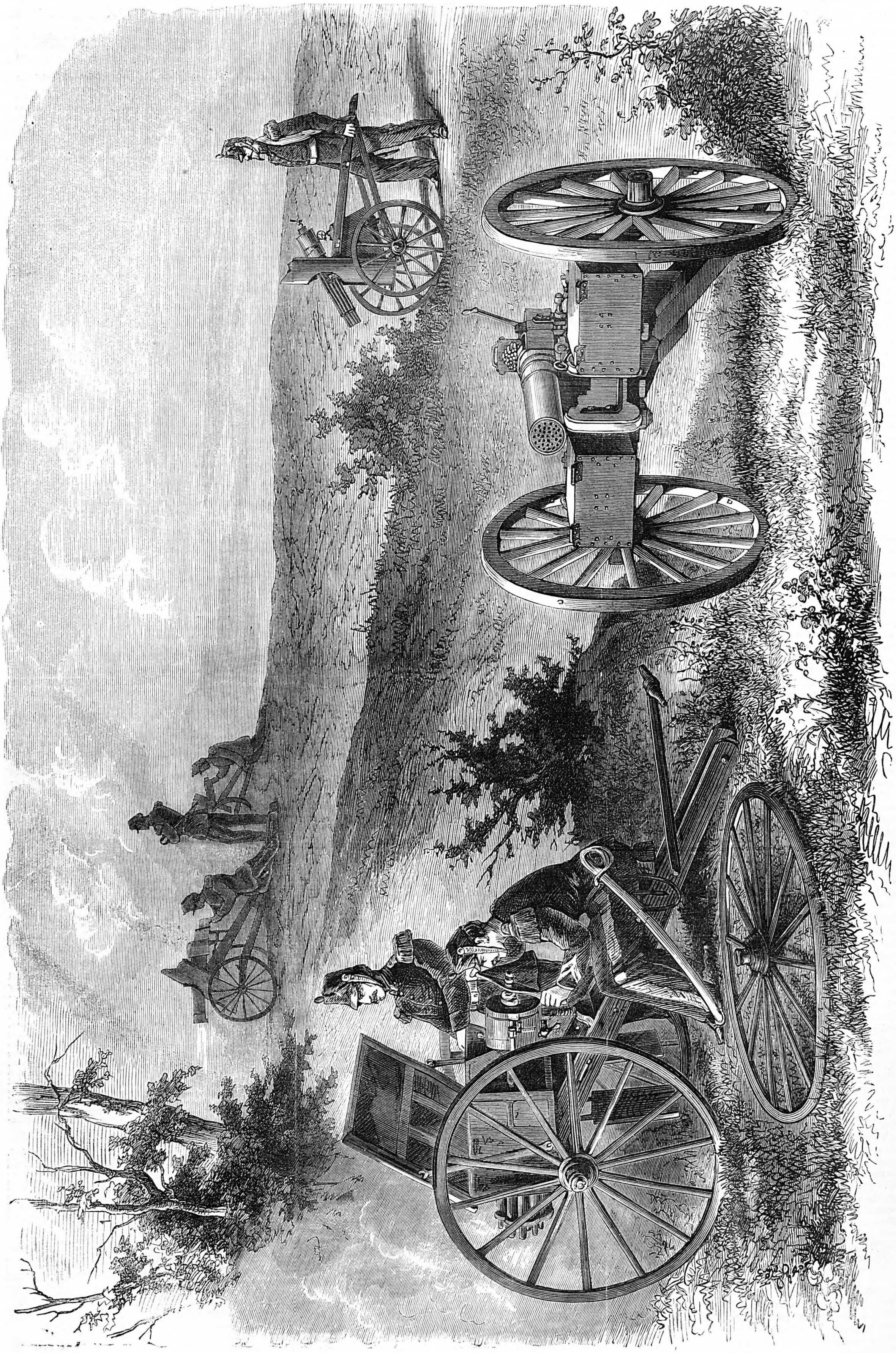
'Address.'

and on the other side the letter is written in pencil or ink. If in the former, it is rendered perfectly secure against being rubbed out by the application of a wet cloth across it, which, thanks to some preparation on the surface of the card, secures its legibility to the end of its journey. The number of letters sent off after a battle are almost incalcuable. It is, indeed, calculated that every sixth person left conscious writes. In order that every chance of writing should be given, postillions ride over the field with cards and a pencil the day after the battle, and any wounded man who is still there can either write or dictate his message home. I have seen them myself holding up their arms to attract the postillion's attention even before they wave for the ambulance wagon."

War Maps.—One of the best War Maps published, is that presented through the medium of the Grocers, by the manufacturers of the Glenfield Starch, to all purchasers of that article. Grocers may have them by applying direct. [710

Advice to Mothers.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes.—Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. [694

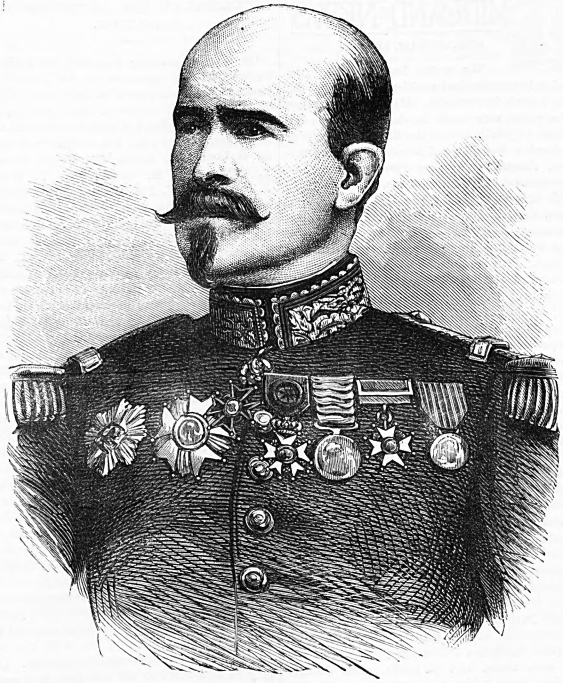
Diet for the Million.—Wealth no longer monopolises the luxuries of life. Persons in the most moderate circumstances can have a delicious dessert daily for a sum so trifling that it is scarcely worth naming. They can take their choice of fifty delicate dishes (each one of which the most fastidious epicure would smack his lips over), at a cost which, in these dear times, may well be called nominal. Custards, creams, blanc-mange, Charlotte Russe puddings, pies, creams, cakes, and jellies are included in this cheap and varied bill of fare. Sea Moss Farine is the most health-giving, delicious, and economical food in the world; composed entirely of refined sea-moss, and prepared with such delicacy as to retain only its nutritious qualities and exquisite flavour. A shilling packet will produce sixteen quarts of blanc-mange, custard pudding, &c. It is certainly incomparable in cheapness, excellence, and the facility with which it can be placed upon the tables of either rich or poor. In shilling packets of all Grocers and Chemists.—Rand Sea Moss Farine Co., 266, High Holborn, London. [21



PRUSSIAN MITRAILLEUSES. *(See page 179.)*

GENERAL TROCHU.

We depict on this page the President of the new French Republic—General Trochu. He stands high in the estimation of the Parisians, and at their wish he now acts as Governor of Paris and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces collected for the defence of the capital of France. He is fifty-five years of age. As a pupil of the Military School of St. Cyr and the Staff School he gained the high reputation for military ability which he has always maintained. Although he has never yet held a detached command, he has undergone great service. He served in Algeria, and was employed for some years on Marshal Bugeaud's staff. In 1854, at the time of the Crimean expedition, he was one of Marshal St. Arnaud's aides-de-camp. He was promoted to the rank of General after that commander's death, and until the end of the Russian War he commanded a brigade of infantry. In 1859, during the Italian campaign (ended by the victory of Solferino) he commanded a division, and won for himself great distinction. He has been a member of the Consulting Staff Committee at the Ministry of War since that time. He was specially appointed at the end of 1866 to consider and report upon plans for a reorganisation of the French army, in consequence of the aggrandisement of Prussia. "The French Army in 1867" was published anonymously by him in the following year. It aroused much interest, and in six months passed through ten editions. In his book the organisation of the French army was severely criticised, and particularly the consequences of those changes, introduced under the Empire, which tended to render the soldiery a separate and professional caste, severed in interest and feeling from their civilian countrymen. He did not receive any appointment when the present French army was sent to the Rhine against Prussia; nevertheless, it was understood he was to have commanded the land forces of the Baltic expedition that were recalled to defend Metz and Paris.



GENERAL TROCHU.

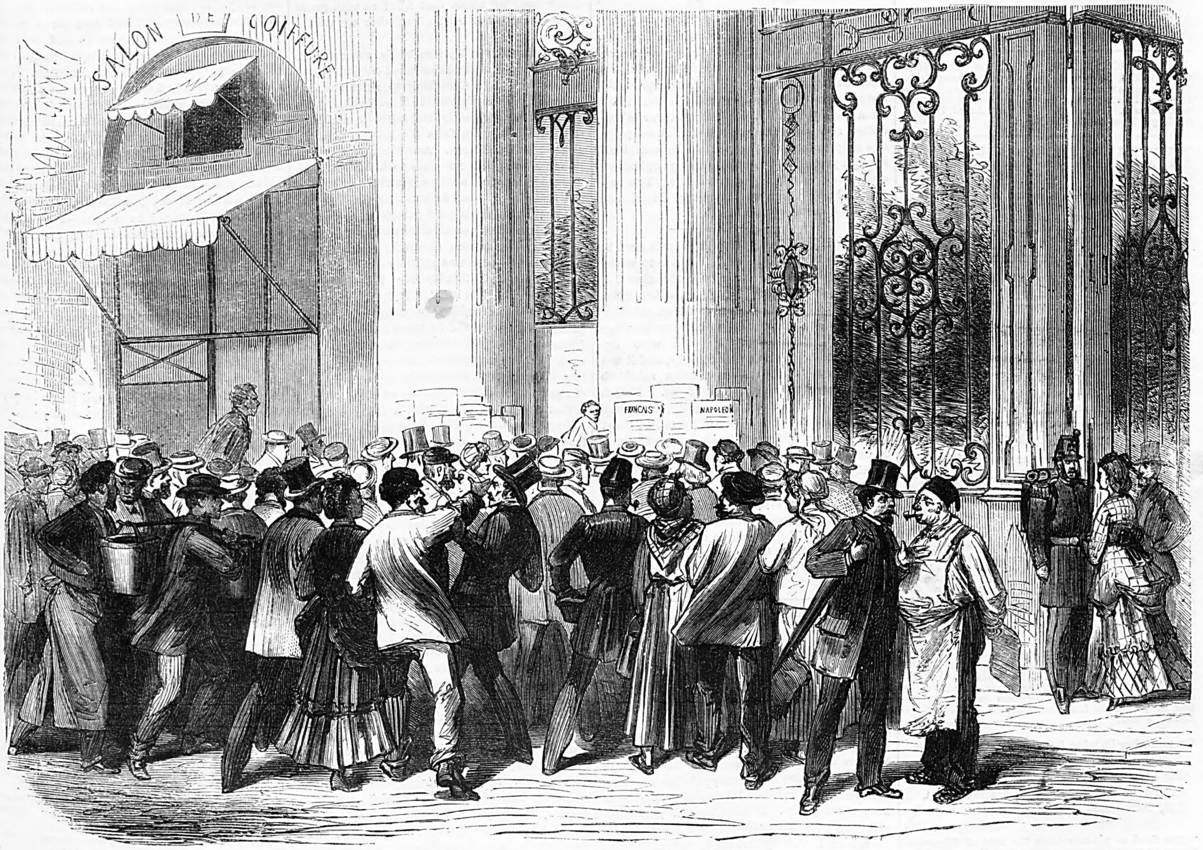
WAR DESPATCHES IN PARIS.

The engraving below represents a scene very frequent in the early days of the war. When the Parisians hoped and expected to hear of victories they were quite fierce in their determination to be supplied with intelligence. All day long they crowded round the doors of the Minister of the Interior, eagerly watching for the latest despatches, reading them aloud to their neighbours, and commenting upon the items with half-wild gesticulations. News did not come then fast enough for them, but the condition of things has changed; and they read now the latest telegrams quietly and gloomily. They have heard too much, and now they are more concerned for affairs at home than for the doings of French soldiers and Prussian armies abroad. They have nothing to hope for outside Paris, and though they still run in crowds, as Parisians always will, it is not to demand despatches or to discuss them. The aspect of Paris life depicted in our sketch is really a scene of only a few days ago, but events move so rapidly that it is difficult to believe that these doings were of recent occurrence. On the walls, in this sketch, appears an imperial proclamation, and by its side a telegram from Napoleon III. These are now things of the past. Paris has quite done with them. Two months ago they were madly crying in those streets "Vive la Guerre," "Vive l'Empereur," "A Berlin." What would be done to a man who should raise those shouts on the boulevards to-day?

GENERAL FROSSARD.

We have already given a portrait and biographical sketch of General Frossard, Commander of the Second French Army Corps, and we need, therefore, only explain that the engraving on page 188 is from a German photograph, while that which we gave two or three weeks ago was from a portrait by a French artist. The German photographs are generally admirable, and we believe no better engraved likeness of Frossard has appeared than that which we present this week. Rapid as is the course of events in this extraordinary war we can add nothing to our last notice of this General, further than to say that he and his regiment have suffered severely since his first disaster near Woerth, and that he has had no opportunity of retrieving his fortunes or justifying his reputation. He was with General MacMahon's army at Sedan, and was included in the capitulation; his name is therefore not likely to reappear in this campaign.

MacMahon.—An American writes from Paris to the *Cincinnati Commercial*:—"I was not lion-hunting, but suddenly I heard a man exclaim in the crowd, 'Why, there is MacMahon.' And, sure enough, there was the most celebrated of living French Generals, the best personification of the French soldier, the hope of the French army in the struggle at hand, and a great popular favourite. MacMahon wore a new silk hat, and its especial gloss was all that made him prominent. His hair is white—a soft, brilliant white—and cut close; and his moustache is also white—as white as Fernando Wood's, but not half so large. He is said not to be an Imperialist, and so small a circumstance as that he does not wear his beard in the fashion of the Emperor gives confirmation to the report. He wears no imperial, his lower lip being clean shaven. In spite of his white hairs, he has not the appearance of advanced years. His eye, complexion, and carriage indicate that he is in the prime of life. His face is a healthy scarlet; the sun of Africa is responsible, I suppose, for the brilliancy of the bronze on his cheeks. His features are not grand, but are refined; his nose is almost delicate in its fine outline and sharpness, and his mouth is sad rather than severe. You can see this expression of sadness—there is something that touches the pathetic in it—in the pictures of him that will now appear everywhere, and which are becoming as plentiful here as those of the Emperor, whose abounding photographs are one of the troubles of the times. MacMahon's eye is a little sunken, and light blue, I think, with a cheery, intelligent sparkling in it (that I am sure of); in his walk he is quick, and in gesture rather deliberate for a Frenchman. Not many persons seemed to recognize him, and he paid no attention to those who did and were staring at him with evident curiosity, nor was there anything in his manner to show consciousness that he was observed. Two or three times was the cry '*Vive MacMahon!*' but he gave no sign of hearing it."



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London: Hodder and Stoughton, 27, Paternoster Row. [31

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NOTICES.

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This paper may be purchased in Paris at 50 centimes (about 5d.) at the Kiosks, and at the bookstalls on all the French Railways.

M. de Bernardy, 8, Place de la Madeléine, is the Wholesale Agent in Paris; and will supply the paper to regular subscribers in France, Spain Italy, and Switzerland.

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On and after October 1st the *Illustrated Midland News* will be posted to Annual Subscribers for 13s. a year, *prepaid*. Post Office Orders should be made payable to Hatton and Co., 108, New-street, Birmingham.

The flood of pictures from the Seat of War continues to compel the postponement of the publication of our "A.B.C. of Ornamental Design..

The Illustrated MIDLAND NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, SEPT. 17, 1870.

WE spoke last week of the curiously unauthorised position occupied by the new French Government. Half-a-dozen leaders of a party very much in the minority in the Corps Legislatif, met at the Hotel de Ville, proclaimed a Republic and formed an Administration, cheered by a noisy crowd outside. The Government at Berlin, it seems, has been struck with this view of the situation. Frenchmen, since the 1st of September, have called upon Germany to withdraw from France, since the war was with the Emperor and not with the nation. Prussia replies in effect that there is no Government at Paris which it knows how to recognise. An official Berlin paper says:—"It may be altogether doubted whether the present Paris Government, which has hitherto derived its powers only from the democracy of the Paris streets, can be considered fitted or authorised to conduct negociations in the name of France." Napoleon surrendered the army, but France continues to fight. What guarantee is there that the French people will not, a week or two hence, refuse to endorse the acts of the Administration of the Hotel de Ville? In the political demoralization of a hundred years France seems to have lost all sense of respect for the forms which are necessary to give character and status to a Government. When the Emperor fell there still existed a Legislative Body, elected only a few months ago, by universal suffrage, and the election was about as pure and uninfluenced as elections are in other countries. In the emergency after Sedan that Body should have acted. It might have strained its authority somewhat, in consideration of the gravity of the crisis, as popular legislative bodies are justified in doing at such times, and it might, after decisive action, have taken the earliest opportunity of making a fresh appeal to the country; but with that Chamber and with that only rested the right to take action on the surrender of the Emperor. What answer will M. Jules Favre—himself a lawyer—make to the sardonic Count Von Bismarck when the Minister-President asks to look at his authority to act for the French nation? Judging from what we have seen already of M. Favre's ministerial manifestoes his reply will be marked by striking eloquence, and by an absence of reason and consistency surpassed only in the fervid political utterances of M. Victor Hugo.

PRUSSIA is singularly unsuccessful in its sieges. Any well fortified town, manned by brave men, can withstand its investment for many weeks. That is not saying much when we remember the history of celebrated sieges and the time it has often taken to reduce a fortress; but war is conducted now on a different system. A campaign of a couple of months has come to be considered a rather protracted business, and siege operations should keep pace with open warfare. The successful holding out of Strasburg, Metz, and Toul is an encouragement to Paris.

QUITE independently of party bias it must be highly gratifying to British statesmen to notice the change that has come over the aspect of political agitation since 1848. Then a Revolution in France lit the fires of disaffection on this side of the Channel. Excited, half delirious meetings were held, inflammatory speeches were delivered in every town in this country, and it was a long time before the commotion subsided. That happens no more amongst us. French Republicanism is contagious on the Continent. It has moved the populations of Spain and Italy, and the fever will run into Germany as soon as there is peace; but in this country, even at the meetings held to express sympathy with the new order of things in France, there is no indication of a strong or even appreciable current of disaffection. Household suffrage has cured us of that malady. The honour is not all due to one party or the other, but the British Parliament has done a very good two-and-twenty year's work since 1848.

THE difficulty of finding a Sovereign for Spain is not likely to trouble General Prim much longer. Had he not lost so much time he might perhaps have established a constitutional monarchy, but the war, which deprived him of a Hohenzollern King, will end by forcing the Republic upon him. It would have been better for Prussia had Prince Leopold not seen fit to withdraw his candidature. But though King William is plastic in the hands of Bismarck the King's family are notoriously rebellious against his domination, and but lukewarm supporters of his general policy. It may happen that there will shortly be a Republican Spain fighting on the side of France against the victorious German forces.

THE MIDLAND INSTITUTE.

EXCURSION OF THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

On Monday morning we joined the Archæological (walking) excursion for the purpose of visiting the ancient camps on the Malvern Hills. The party, which numbered about twenty, including several ladies, left New-street Station in a saloon carriage at 9 a.m. The company was made up of Councillors Barker and Deykin, Messrs. T. Osborn, W. H. Deykin, W. T. Watts, J. Stubbin, J. V. Fincher, and A. E. Everitt, and F. B. Osborn (Hon. Secs.), S. Timmins, President, and several others. When we started the sun shone, and the weather was fine, but it was doubtful how long it would remain so. The pleasure seekers were very social and talkative, but archæology was not the theme of conversation: it gave place, as all other topics have done, to the war, and, as we were carried through the green meadows of Worcestershire, the section exchanged their views as to the fighting of the belligerents and the possibility of Paris holding out against the Prussian forces. At Worcester the party was joined by Mr. H. H. Lines, who had undertaken to be the guide of the day, having studied the fortresses on Malvern Hills for many years. He came laden with maps and information concerning the place to be visited. His plans were handed round in the carriage and several members began to talk quite seriously of Roman camps and remains for a little time. But, as our sporting friends would term it, the subject couldn't "stay," and it soon became evident that the excursionists had left smoky Birmingham for fresh air and quiet enjoyment in spite of the British camps on the Malverns, their *vallums*, and what not. Mr. Lines himself was quite enthusiastic, and, in defiance of wind and rain, did his duty as guide admirably, but with the rest archœology was a secondary consideration. This may be attributed to the fact that, in a sense, there was nothing to look at beyond bare ground where can be traced the footprints of the early Britons.

After leaving Worcester we travelled through beautiful scenery. The hop-gatherers we passed made a pretty picture, and one that is the more admired on account of its rarity. We ran alongside orchards completely strewn with fruit that the late winds have brought down, and so abundant is the growth that although the ground is thickly covered with fallen fruit there seems enough on some of the trees to break the branches. In the distance were the Malverns, with dark clouds hanging about that filled us with grave doubt as to what kind of weather we should have.

Soon after eleven Malvern Wells was reached. We left the station and continued our journey on foot, with the hills stretching to right and left before us and the Vale of the Teme behind. We strolled along pleasantly, staying now and then to pluck blackberries from the hedges, until we reached Little Malvern. According to the programme there was no place to be visited here but the party made a stay neverertheless, and, in the first place, went to examine the fine old church. Even in this quiet out-of-the-way nook, with hills and trees on all sides we were reminded of the terrible war on the banks of the Rhine. On the church door was a notice—"Collected at this church last Sunday for the Sick and Wounded, £12 17s. 6d." It is a grand old building—the crumbling remains of a great priory. At the base of its tower are the broken fragments of early Norman capitals. Its heraldic tiles, stall seats, double Eychoscope, remaining bits of early glass, beautifully carved remnants of the old rood screen, portions of a once noble timber roof, now mixed with a modern plaster ceiling, were all objects of interest, even to the least enthusiastic. The grounds of the adjoining residence, Berrington Court, were kindly thrown open to the visitors by the lady of the house. Here we saw two most wonderful trees—a Portugal laurel and a lime tree. Leaving these lovely grounds, the excursionists strolled up a long and hilly path through a wood, wherein the bushes are covered with blackberries, the largest we ever saw. They were not sweet, owing, perhaps, to the trees keeping the sun off them. Then we came to a turnpike road—the old coach road to Hereford—and soon after we were at the British Camp Inn. The Section had the liveliest interest in this Inn, and smiled with satisfaction when they saw it. In the programme we were told that luncheon would be provided here. It is no earthly use for people, especially English folk, to go out unless they eat something. The idea of something to eat and bitter beer, or what you like best to drink, was very cheering to a party who had scrambled several miles up hill sides. Some rash archæologist suggested that Mr. Lines should give an oration before we feasted, but this notion was scouted by the remainder, who decided that the proper thing to do was to eat and drink at once. This judicious advice was acted upon, and we were soon in the presence of a cold collation, a considerable portion of which was "lost to sight, to memory dear" in a few minutes. Luncheon being over the section prepared for the work of the day. Led by Mr. Lines, the party ascended the hill towards the summit of the Herefordshire Beacon, pausing now and then to use their telescopes and admire the landscape. Standing on the Herefordshire Beacon one sees a wide sweep of open country on every side, affording a panoramic view many miles in extent. The camp was entered by the north gate, and the site of a guard house close by was pointed out by Mr. Lines. On arriving at the outer fosse we were shown sites of huts and waterworks leading to a spring on the western side of the hill. The hollow was pointed out where it is believed the beacon was kindled in times of danger. Within the citadel Mr. Lines read his paper, standing staff in hand like a Druid, whilst his listeners threw themselves on the grass before him. He explained that the origin of the camps could, in his opinion, be traced to the period of the Silurian war, in the first century of our era. He believed the Hereford Beacon camp to have been constructed after some experience of Roman tactics. The works were not slight, and had not been hastily thrown up, and most probably occupied several years in construction. From all appearances they were erected for purposes of defence and not aggression. He considered the arrangements were of a more advanced character than was usually found to be the case in ancient British works. The citadel gave a full view of three clearly marked divisions of the camps, corresponding to a great extent with similar divisions to be found in Roman camps of the first class. The greatest divergence that could be found between British and Roman camps was in the manner of laying out the roads within the works. The Romans planned everything geometrically, and at right angles, always leaving a broad space of unoccupied ground all round the works for the purpose of forming the legions in order for battle. That to a small degree was imitated in the camp under consideration. All was constructed upon the plan of compound curves, and, as regarded the means of transit from one point of the camp to another, the deep trenches or fossa were the common roads. Mr. Lines described the construction of the gates, which were so placed that the foe, in approaching, would have his right arm to the defenders, thus rendering his shield arm of no protection to him. From the chariot gate there was easy access to the eastern gate, and between the two was an oval area of about 106 feet, which, he thought probable, had served as an amphitheatre or a place of public assembly. He considered the southern gate to be an extraordinary one, and used for a special purpose: that of giving access to and from the fortress to a glen, wherein is a stone that, in all probability, was used in offering sacrifices. This stone was evidently fixed in its present position; it is raised, and stands alone under a crab tree. These are but a few particulars, taken at random from the exhaustive and very excellent paper read by Mr. Lines. The wind became boisterous and rain fell, but Mr. Lines, nothing daunted, led the party to another camp on Midsummer-hill. Several of us, not having faith in the weather, took shelter in a cave—The Giant's Cave, we believe, it is called. It is a big name, but the cave is small; you couldn't swing a cat in it, at least, not without damaging its head. Anyhow, it saved us from the rain, which began to fall in torrents. In about a quarter of an hour Mr. Lines and party came to the cave all but drowned. The Giant's Cave wouldn't hold them all, and several had to stand outside. Suddenly the clouds cleared away, and the sun shone out warmly. After the rain the ground was fresh, and bright, and green, and the landscape below, with the shadow of light clouds passing slowly over it, was very beautiful. Fine weather continued throughout the day. The company, with few exceptions, went to Malvern by train. We were amongst the exceptions, and had a fine walk over the hills. On descending into Malvern, from the highest point, we met the Bishop of London walking briskly up the hill, but looking just a little jaded.

In the evening the party joined the *Table d'Hote* at the Imperial Hotel, Malvern. Before leaving for the train Mr. S. Timmins, the president, thanked Mr. Lines for the courteous manner in which he had acted as guide and philosopher to the party. The president and secretary were thanked also. The excursionists reached Birmingham about half-past ten.

THE SLAVE TRADE.—A Parliamentary return of the vessels captured for being engaged in and equipped for the slave trade from the 1st of January, 1864, to the 31st of December, 1869. shows that the number of these vessels was about 1870, the names of most of them being unknown. The largest number of slaves in any one case was 283, captured on board a vessel taken by the "Wasp" on the 12th of May, 1864; of these 277 were emancipated. As lateas s May, 1869, 267 slaves were captured in another vessel by the "Nymphe," and of these 263 were emancipated. The total number of slaves captured was between 5,000 and 7,000.

NEWS OF THE MIDLANDS.

Miss Bateman appears as Leah at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Monday.

Mr. Roebuck has successfully undergone an operation which it is hoped may result in the restoration of his sight, which has for some time been seriously failing him.—*Sheffield Telegraph.*

Mr. Sothern performs at the Theatre Royal, Derby, to-night. He will be at Wolverhampton on the 23rd, Bath 24th, Bristol the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of October, at Cheltenham the 6th, 7th, and 8th, and at Birmingham from the 21st to the 26th.

Mr. and Mrs. Rousby will appear in "'Twixt Axe and Crown" at Sheffield on the 10th of October, that being the first time this popular drama will have been produced out of the metropolis, and the beginning of a provincial tour.

South Staffordshire Iron Trade.—It was reported that Mr. Frederick Smith had resigned the chairmanship of the South Staffordshire Iron Trade. We are informed, says the *Times*, that he has no intention of retiring until the term has expired for which he was elected.

Sheffield is to have a new corn and fruit market, as soon as the necessary parliamentary authority can be obtained. The present building is to be removed, and a new edifice reared on its site. The centre of the new building will be appropriated to the corn trade, and the sides will be occupied by the wholesale dealers in fruit and vegetables.

The Protoxide of Nitrogen.—By the use of this nitrous oxide gas Mr. Bowater, of Broad-street, Birmingham, is perfectly successful in the painless extraction of teeth. There are dentists who profess to draw teeth without inflicting pain, but totally fail to carry out their promise. We will say no more of Mr. Bowater's method in this place than that he does not "keep the word of promise to the ear and break it to the hope."

"Clam" at the Prince of Wales Theatre.—The autumn season is conducted with great enterprise. The very popular "Peep o' Day Boys" is followed by the still more popular "Clam," by Mr. Charles H. Ross. This piece had a very brilliant run at the Surrey Theatre, London, and is now pursuing a remarkably successful career in the provinces. It is much appreciated in Birmingham. The piece is played by the Surrey company.

Readings at West Bromwich.—An evening's Reading in aid of the West Bromwich Branch of the Society for the Relief of the Sick and Wounded in War, was given by Mr. D. C. Murray, in the Prince's Assembly Room, West Bromwich, on Wednesday. The programme was varied and well-chosen, embracing selections from Dickens, Tennyson, Hood, Browning, Campbell, and a piece entitled "War," by D. Christie, published in a recent number of the *Illustrated Midland News*. The pieces received with the greatest favour were, "The Tuggses at Ramsgate," "Lady Clare," "War," and the "Soldier's Dream." The audience manifested their appreciation of the very effective rendering of all the selections by frequent applause. The entertainment was well attended, and we hope that the West Bromwich Fund, which is steadily progressing, will be considerably augmented by the proceeds of this pleasant evening's entertainment. Mr. Murray was heartily and deservedly thanked by the audience for his very effective readings, and for his exertions in behalf of the humane object so well supported in West Bromwich.

Frightful Railway Accident at Tamworth.—An awful railway accident occurred at Tamworth at a quarter-past four o'clock on Wednesday morning. The Irish mail, from Stafford to Rugby, in running through Tamworth station, was, by a mistake of the pointsman, turned into the adjoining siding, and ran into the river Anker, at a point lying south of the station. The train consisted of an engine and tender, with first guard's break van, one composite carriage, a post-office and a post-office tender, a luggage van, three composites, two first-class carriages, and the rear guard's van. Smith, the second guard, states that the distance signals north of Tamworth were at "all clear" when the mail passed them at its ordinary speed of forty miles an hour to run through the station; but at this instant, on looking forward, he observed that the main-line signal was against them, and before he had time even to apply a break, he felt the train suddenly turned off the main-line into the platform siding. Another instant, and he was thrown violently on to the floor of the van. On recovering himself, he got out of his van, and found the train, with the exception of four or five carriages in its rear, a complete wreck. The powerful stop-block at the south end of the siding, with its supporting earthwork, had been completely carried away, and engine and tender and guard's break, with portions of some of the leading carriages, had fallen down an embankment, nearly twenty feet high, into the river Anker, a tributary of the Tam, but swollen greatly beyond its normal width by recent rains. The engine and tender were completely submerged. The former made a somersault in its descent, and, twisting round, fell under the bridge which carries the main line over the river at this spot. The first guard (John Reeve) was thrown with the wreck of his van into the water, and, being stunned, narrowly escaped drowning. Providentially he fell with a large portion of the roof of his van, upon which he floated until assisted out by means of a ladder thrown to him by persons on the bank. Taylor, the driver, was found dead upon the river bank, having probably jumped from, or been thrown off, his engine by the shock. His stoker, John Davis, was thrown into the river, and was subsequently recovered quite dead. Father Healey, a Roman Catholic priest, was taken out of the wreck dead and terribly mutilated. His fellow traveller, Father Ring, fell into the river, and was much shaken. The post-office and the post-office tender were broken up, and the three travelling sorters narrowly escaped with their lives. One of them, Mr. Clarke, fell into a water tank, and but for his skill as a swimmer would inevitably have lost his life. The tank into which he fell was twenty feet, with ten feet of water in it. Fortunately the number of passengers by the up mail train was unusually small, and of these only a few have suffered seriously.

Mr. John Mason, of Bilston, has generously presented to the Corporation of that town a site for a public recreation ground, and 200 guineas towards the erection of a Free Library.

The Chasetown Cottagers' Flower Show.—This show was held on Tuesday and Wednesday last. A large number of prizes were offered, the competition was good, the exhibition an excellent one, and the whole affair passed off very successfully.

The French Republic.—On Monday evening a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Birmingham, for the purpose of expressing good wishes for the peace and prosperity of the French Republic. The floor of the hall was densely thronged, and the galleries were nearly filled. Among those on the platform were the Rev. A. O'Neill (chairman of the committee), Aldermen Sadler and Aston, Councillors Baldwin, Chamberlain, Jesse Collings, Perkins, and Heyden, and several others. Resolutions in harmony with the object of the meeting were unanimously passed.

Trade in Birmingham.—*Ryland's Iron Trade Cicrular* reports that the trade of the town is well sustained in the principal branches. The largest manufacturers are fully employed. Great activity is displayed at all the large engineering works, at most of which the hands are working overtime. Some of the heaviest engineering contracts are on Russian and Indian account, but the home orders for boilers, mills, and machinery of various kinds, as also for bridge and girder work, are very considerable. The tube makers have a steady flow of orders, both in the boiler and gas fitting branches. At most of the rolling and wire mills there is no scarcity of employment. The sewing machine branch—a comparatively new industry—is fully occupied. Many hundreds of these handy little domestic machines are despatched from Birmingham weekly. The sporting gun trade is tolerably well engaged on the better class of breech-loaders, but there is as much stagnation in the general military small arms branch as ever. Notwithstanding frequent reports to the contrary, with the exception of the contracts for Government weapons now being executed at the Small Arms Factory, Small Heath, no orders for rifles have been received in Birmingham.

THE ROYAL BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY OF ARTISTS.

[Third Notice.]

Among the second half hundred pictures are some of the finest in the exhibition.

51. "The Comet of 1858 as seen at Moseley." E. O. Bowley.—This is a valuable pictorial record of a peculiar phenomenon in the heavens and it is, besides, a pretty little picture. The light comes well through the cleverly-manipulated trees between which the effects of moon and comet are pourtrayed.

52. "A Game at Draughts." J. E. Soden.—If not very original there is a certain vigour about it and it makes not a bad little work.

53. "Market Day at Dinan, France." A. Montagu. A rather successful study of an old timber arcade and the queer antique architecture of an ancient French town. The houses nod to one another oddly in some of those Norman streets, and the painter has caught very well the effects.

54. "A Country Railway Station." Erskine Nicol, A.R.A.—(The property of Joseph Gillott, Esq.) It is hardly necessary to say, even to those who have not visited this gallery, that Nicol's "Country Railway Station" is in the front rank of the few celebrated pictures in the exhibition. This is a very valuable example of what pre-Raphaelitism in its best mood has done for English art. The appearance of the figures is so truthful that it is hard to believe they are stereotyped before you. There is a freshness of expression with every fresh inspection of the group. Perhaps the finest effect of foreground perspective is that exhibited in the drawing and colouring of the boxes and trunks; it is almost difficult to believe that they form part of the pigment on the canvas.

55. "Elaine." Mrs. Anderson.—This is priced at £630 in the catalogue, and it is very well known to those who keep themselves posted up with respect to the pictures of the season. Such works are a great acquisition to a provincial collection. Tennyson is fortunate in moving the imagination of accomplished artists. His admirers will not, perhaps, easily forget his "Elaine," but none will forget it who ever stand for a few minutes before Mrs. Anderson's fine painting. The lines quoted—

> "And the dead, steered by the dumb, went upwards
> with the flood,"

are absolutely realized here. There is thought, imagination, and a dreamy ideality in it, and yet every line and hue is rigidly real. It will be interesting to mark whether this remarkable picture find a purchaser in the Midlands at six hundred guineas.

56. "Evening at Beddgelert." F. S. Murchamp.—This seems a very well executed landscape, but it is hung too high for safe judgment upon its merits.

57. "Fruit." H. B. Gray.—There are always a good many fruit and flower pieces at these shows, and at Birmingham they are generally very good. This is one of the good ones.

58. "The Dawn of Day, North Wales." A de Bréanski.—A very fair bit of Welsh landscape and study of atmospheric effects.

59. "A Mile from Home." A. de Leeuw.—Apparently a Canadian scene. It is the carrying home of timber on a sledge, drawn by four horses, over ice and snow. The horses are excellent.

60. "Sir Patrick Spens." James Archer, R.S.A.—Another of the masterpieces so plentiful in this section of the gallery. The ladies on the shore, looking across the cruel waves for the lost ship and her freight of princes and nobles with the king's fair daughter and her newly-wed husband, form a grand scene in a sad drama. We do not like the sea so well as the figures, but it is a fine painting.

61. "A Spanish Lady." J. B. Burgess.—Too much like a picture of a picture. The lady is handsome and grand, but she has a too inflexible way of standing before us on the canvas.

62. "Borrowdale." Charles R. Aston.—The artist, or amateur, has taken some pains, but not enough.

63. "The Little Coward." H. T. Munns.—A pretty little blonde child playing with flowers and afraid of a bee. It is not very successful.

64. "Alsatians." E. Crauford.—One looks at these swaggering figures now with a special interest, because of the garish light that is thrown by the war on the Alsatian country. The little painting embodies a sentence from the "Fortunes of Nigel:" "But here come two of the male inhabitants, smoking like moving volcanoes." We can hardly say the thought is well realised, or that the figures are well painted.

65. "Repose." Walter J. Morgan.—This is a babe in a cradle. It wants originality of treatment.

66. "West Highland Stots." Aster Corbould.—The cows are not badly drawn.

67. "Sheep Reposing." M. Julian.—The artist may succeed in animal painting with study. There is a gleam of life in the sheeps' faces.

68. "Art Critics." William Helmsley.—A difficult subject. The little boy and girl are doing a bit of criticism over a picture which the spectator does not see, but only its reflection in a mirror. It is a Phillis and Chloë, and the boy giggles at it while the girl gazes contemplatively. There is a touch of human nature and a little bit of drama in the work. The artist will not be prone to wear overworn subjects still more threadbare. The painting is a very good one.

69. "On the Conway." J. P. Pettit. This is an excellent painting. There is real depth in it, and genuine artistic feeling.

70. "The Quartett." J. D. Wingfield.—Pretty, but rather formal and artificial.

70. "A Woodland Ramble." C. J. Lewis.—A bank of wild flowers is not often a successful picture. In this case the difficulty has been very well overcome. The motto:

> Where daisies pied, and violets blue,
> And lady-smocks, all silver white—

is faithfully pictured, and the adjoining pine wood and the great beech trunk rising out of the bank are admirable. The children we do not like so well.

72. "Evening on the Llugwy." John Finnie.—A handsome piece of mountain, lake, and foreshore, set down in the catalogue at sixty guineas and labelled "sold."

73. "Racing the Tide." J. L. Brodie.—A painting full of spirit. The great cart galloping over the sands is finely drawn.

74. "Low Water." H. Gommery.—The water and black boulders are not badly rendered.

75. "Mrs. Thomas Fiddian." H. T. Manns.—Evidently a good, natural, unpretentious portrait, by a fine portrait painter.

76. "The Balcony." Alexander Johnston.—A good study. A little more spirit would render it a great work.

77. "Early Breakfast." E. Hughes.—Sweet rosy babe in bed with a rosy apple in its hand. The pretty shoulders very soft and natural.

78. "A Signal for a Pilot." E. Hayes, R.H.A.—A promising bit of marine painting.

79. "Wind, Snow, and Rain." G. A. Williams.—A very good picture. There is a pleasing freshness in it.

80. "Reflection." A. F. Pasten.—The maiden thinking looks very much as if she were posing herself to be looked at, consciously unconscious of being seen. Very well executed.

81. "Study of Cows." W. J. Hill.—The artist should go on studying.

82. "The Afternoon Walk." Anna Charretie.—Rather a set subject, treated in a set fashion, but a pleasant picture, nevertheless.

83. "Wild Roses, Nest, &c." Edmund Hall.—A little too "spick and span," but shows cleverness.

84. Sunset." George Cole. (The property of W. C. Firmstone, Esq.)—One of those grand sky effects—a blaze of orange and green—which many people will not believe in but which are yet perfectly true to nature. There is no pigment and no quantity of it laid on two or three feet of canvas that can overdo some sunset scenes. It is a very fine painting.

85. "Dutch Cattle and Landscape—Summer Morning." A. Burke.—The cattle seem to walk forth out of the picture. The rounding and foreshortening of the figures are quite remarkable.

86. "A Wicklow Cabin." J. J. Hughes.—A good scene faithfully rendered.

87. "Lost and Found." S. Diez.—Sleeping children found by a dog. Effectively done.

88. "Hampstead Heath." Alfred Bennett.—Rather too suggestive of mosaic.

89. "Morning after the Storm." W. Williams.—One of Williams's characteristic dark Devon pictures. It is somewhat strange that such sombre hues should come from a county of so much brightness. There is depth and quality in the picture.

90. "The Death of Cleopatra." Van Prinsep.—The scene is in the temple where Antony was buried. It is taken from "Plutarch's Lives." A splendid Egyptian spectacle finely painted.

91. "Alone!" James Sant, R.A.—One of the Royal Academy pictures, immensely popular when it was first hung, and of course not less popular here. The joyous young mother prone upon the lawn teaches her baby to walk. A charming subject charmingly done, without any attempted idealization.

92. "Valley of the Usk, Monmouthshire." E. O. Bowley.—Too much unfinished detail, but fairly effective on a distant inspection.

93. "Stepping Stones on the Ogwen." W. H. Vernon.—Shows feeling for natural effects, but the picture is not so good as others by the same artist in this gallery.

94. "Christmas Visitors." F. D. Hardy. (The property of S. Cartwright, Esq.)—A great deal of quality in the work. The little boy with the holly is wonderfully genuine.

95. "The Banks of the Nile." G. E. Hicks.—The very dark Egyptian girl is painted with a strong eye for effect. The artist has been tolerably successful.

96. "Music Scene from the Opera of the 'Barber of Seville.'" The late John Phillips, R.A. (The property of John Marshall, Esq.)—A rich specimen from the atelier of a master.

97. "Sea Drift, Morning after a Storm." T. F. Marshall.—The sea is admirably done, and so is the shore, bestrewn with debris. The figures not quite up to the same level.

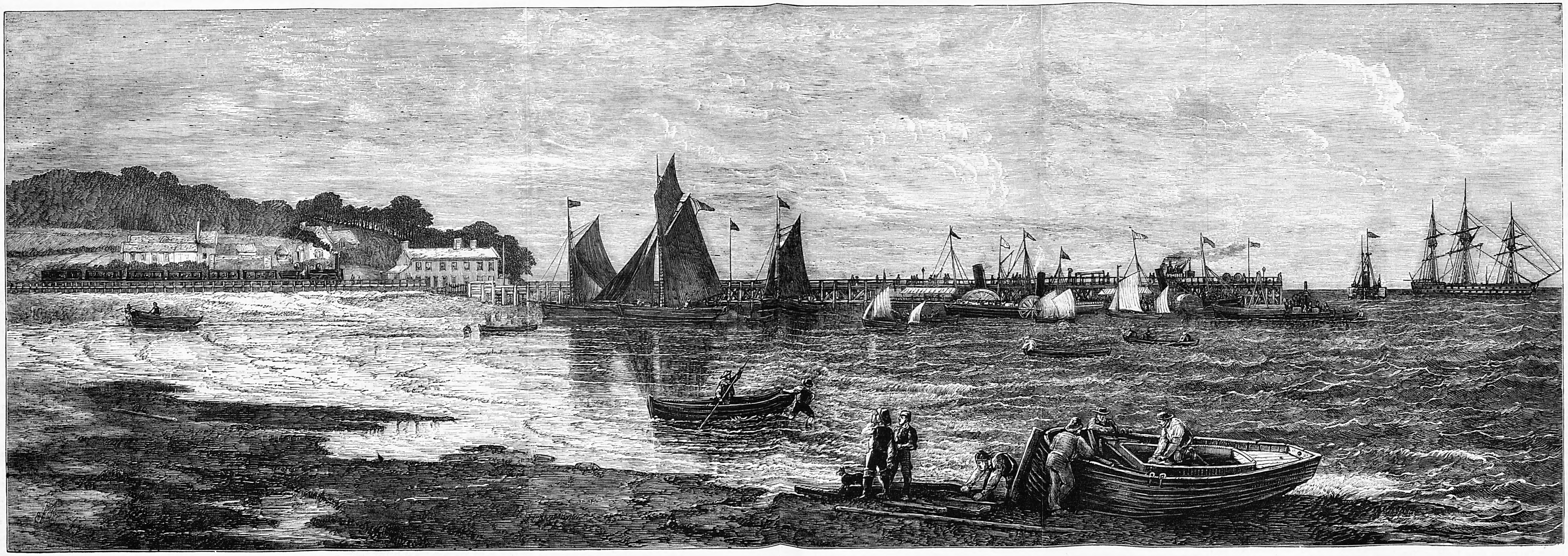
98. "On the way to the Cattle Tryst." P. Graham. (The property of Joseph Gillott, Esq.)—Not so great in animal painting as in the general effects of the scene, which are very fine. It is a valuable work.

99. "The Right Hon. the Countess of Dudley." R. Buckner.—One of the chief attractions of the chief room in the gallery. An example of English beauty painted in a manner worthy of the subject.

100. "The Race." P. R. Morris.—A very good piece of figure painting, and excellent accessories.

Halfpenny Stamps.—The new halfpenny stamps have been issued. The new halfpenny adhesive stamp is about two-thirds the size of the ordinary "Queen's head," and like it is printed in red and bears a profile of her Majesty as a circular medallion, but is rather disfigured by a halfpenny symbol on the left hand side. The stamp on the newspaper wrappers is of a long form and of a green colour, bearing her Majesty's profile, the word "halfpenny, and 1 10 70," the date when the stamp will come into operation. We have been favoured with a view of the new correspondence cards. They are slightly larger than what are technically known as "large" cards, of a cream tint. One side has a thin purple border, and the halfpenny stamp in the same colour, and the other side is blank so that the message may be written thereon. These will be sold like the adhesive stamp at one halfpenny each. In the case of gummed wrappers a charge of fourpence a hundred will be made.

Postage on Newspapers, &c.—A notice has been issued by the Post-office authorities relative to the reduction of postage on inland newspapers, printed matter, and patterns or samples, which will take effect on and after 1st October, in connection with which half-penny postage labels and newspaper wrappers bearing an impressed half-penny stamp will be introduced. A supply of these is in course of issue to head postmasters in the country and to the district and receiving offices in London. Previously to 1st October the sale of these labels and wrappers will be confined to newspaper proprietors and newsagents, but as the reduction of postage does not commence before the 1st October, anything bearing a halfpenny stamp posted before that date will be treated as unpaid. Newspaper proprietors and newsagents, on applying to a head postmasters, will be able to obtain, at short notice, any quantity of these labels, or wrappers. The wrappers are of the dimensions of 14 inches by 5 inches. A discount of 1 per cent. will be allowed to persons purchasing at one time not less than £10 of either labels or wrappers. Newspaper proprietors and newsvendors desiring to have their own wrappers or paper impressed with the halfpenny stamp must make application, not to the Post-office, but to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. The wrappers must be of white paper.



PORTISHEAD PIER AND RAILWAY.

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BARK.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Japanese bamboo thrives finely in California.

A Kansas town has had to advertise for a doctor and a druggist.

Saratoga hotels receive two hundred and fifty new guests daily.

A Californian raised this season a crop of poppies which covers thirteen acres.

Eighteen hundred persons slept on one night recently at one of the Saratoga hotels.

It was a very learned and elaborate discourse with which Professor Huxley opened the Science Congress at Liverpool on Wednesday.

Wednesday was the Great St. Leger day. The favourite, Kingcraft, was beaten by Mr. Morgan's Hawthornden by half a length. Before the race the betting was 2 to 1 against Kingcraft and 28 to 1 against Hawthornden. The rider of the winner was J. Grimshaw.

HANDSOME BEQUEST.—A tradesman of Devonport, who some years ago saved a naval officer from drowning, has lately been handsomely rewarded for his bravery. The officer, who had risen to be a rear admiral, died a short time ago, leaving, it is said, the sum of £7,000 to his preserver.

A very beautiful monument, consisting of a recumbent figure in statuary marble, with canopied superstructure and solid brass traceried standards, is about to be placed in Carlisle Cathedral to the memory of the late Bishop, Dr. Waldegrave, the joint design of Mr. Adams, the sculptor, and Mr. T. H. Watson, the architect, at a cost of £800.

ANCIENT MITRAILLEUSES.—It is mentioned in *Grose's Military Antiquities* (1801) that in England, in the year 1625, under Charles I., a patent for a new invention was granted to a certain William Drummond. The invention is described as a machine composed of a number of muskets joined together, by the help of which two soldiers can oppose a hundred, and named, on account of its effect, "thunder carriage," or more usually "fire carriage."

MUTILATED CURRENCY.—Under the rules of the United States' Treasury mutilated banknotes are redeemed according to the degree of mutilation. A note with a certain portion of its superficial surface torn off is never redeemed at its full value, but in proportion to the quantity of superficial surface presented for redemption. Since greenbacks were introduced the redemption division of the Treasury has been constantly engaged in redeeming this mutilated currency, and an account of the discount has been kept, which shows an aggregate up to the present date of 186,693 dollars, which the Government has thus saved, all of which has of course come out of the pockets of the holders.—*New York Times.*

GREAT FRESHET.—There was an extraordinary freshet in the Canadian river Thames on the 24th of August, in consequence of heavy rains. At London the river rose nearly ten feet in the night, doing great damage to bridges, fencing, and crops. The water was higher than had been known for seventeen years. In various places large numbers of life stock were drowned. At Ingersoll the greater part of the roadway of one the principal streets was swept away, leaving an immense chasm almost in the middle of the town. An accident occurred near Beachville, on the Great Western Railway, caused by the river overflowing and breaking a culvert. A portion of the track was swept away. Some of the cars of the steamboat express going west were thrown off the track, and one or two persons injured.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—The National Educational League has just issued a circular relative to its future action, and embodying the objects, in addition to those in its original programme, for which the organisation of the league should be maintained. The new purposes for which the organization is to be carried on are as follow :—"1. To assist in putting the Education Act in operation, so as to secure, as far as possible, the establishment of unsectarian, compulsory, and free schools. 2. To promote amendments in the Education Act, by converting the permissive into obligatory clauses, and securing the recognition of the principle of equality in rate-aided schools. 3. To resist the increase of Parliamentary grants to sectarian schools. 4. To watch the progress of educational legislation in reference to the Irish system. 5. To influence public and Parliamentary opinion by meetings, publications, petitions, and all other available means, in favour of a national, unsectarian, compulsory, and free system of education; and with this view to secure the return of members to the House of Commons pledged to support the principles advocated by the League."

GREAT VOLUNTEER SHAM FIGHT AT NEWCASTLE.—On Saturday afternoon, a grand review of the Volunteers of the counties of Northumberland and Durham, assisted by the men of the 98th regiment, at present stationed in Newcastle garrison, was held on the Town Moor, Newcastle, and, although under unfavourable circumstances, it was a completely successful military spectacle. The events on the Continent tended to give unusual importance to this great Volunteer gathering, and it created great interest in Newcastle, and, indeed, throughout the two counties of Northumberland and Durham. The entire command of the troops on the field was entrusted to Colonel Peyton, of H.M.'s 98th Regiment of Foot, and the plan drawn out by him for the mimic warfare was intended to illustrate the procedure necessary for checking the advance of a powerful party of invaders. The staff consisted of Capt. Thomas T. Simpson, 98th Regiment; Colonel Reid, Northumberland Artillery Militia; Lieut. Robson, 1st Newcastle Artillery Volunteers; Cornet Henderson, Newcastle and Northumberland Yeomanry Cavalry; Ensign Jameson, 98th Regiment; and Capt. and Adjutant Taylor, 8th Northumberland Rifle Volunteers. Lieut.-Col. Addison Potter, 3rd Northumberland Administrative Brigade Artillery Volunteers, and Lieut.-Col. Allhusen, 1st Newcastle Artillery Volunteers. The total strength of the forces on the ground was about 4,500. The field day appears to have given great satisfaction. Colonel Peyton, in his speech, declared that the movements had been exceedingly well performed and entirely to his satisfaction throughout.

The stud of horses belonging to the Prince Imperial has arrived in this country.

There were forty fatal strokes of lightning in Wiscosin during July.

An American paper asserts that there are twenty known dwarfs in the world smaller than Tom Thumb.

There seems to have been little or no foundation for the recent alarming reports. of Sepoy mutiny in India.

The International Yacht Race round Rock Island, U.S., and back took place on Friday. The Phantom was first and the Cambria second. Nine yachts contested.

AN IRRESISTIBLE INDUCEMENT.—While an Irish steamer was on the way to Belfast the other day some of the steerage passengers engaged in a dance on deck. Among the passengers were a respectable man and his wife, the latter carrying a young child in her arms. The husband remarked to his wife that the dancing was of an inferior description, and that he would give them a step in good style. The wife said she did not wish him to dance on board, and threatened to drown herself. The husband, however, commenced to dance, whereupon the woman, putting the child upon the seat, actually jumped into the sea. A boat was lowered, and she was rescued in an exhausted condition.

SINGULAR SAGACITY OF A DOG NEAR CROOK.—A few days ago, a man named Peter Anderson, whilst out with his wife gathering "brambles," in a wood near Cold Knott Colliery, Crook, accidentally fell into an old pit shaft, 12 fathoms deep. A little dog he had with him ran off to his wife—who had lost him, and was sitting down waiting—and exhibited every sign of distress, but she could not understand its meaning, and after waiting for nearly four hours went home. The dog, however, would not let her rest, and at length she got some assistance, and the faithful animal led them to the spot, when, with the aid of ropes, the imprisoned man was rescued from his perilous position with but slight injuries.

THE EMPEROR'S NEW RESIDENCE.—The Palace of Wilhemshöe, which has been assigned as a residence by the King of Prussia to the ex-Emperor of the French, was the summer residence of the Elector of Cassel, in the vicinity of which town, the capital of the electorate of Hesse-Cassel, it is situated. The suburbs of Cassel are extremely beautiful, and abound in delightful promenades. That of Wilhelmshöe is especially rich in this respect, containing the Augarten (Meadow-garden), and the gardens which surround the Electoral Palace, which are famous for a fountain that sends a column of water 12 in. in diameter to a height of 200 feet. His ex-Imperial Majesty's new place of abode is distant about 400 miles in a straight line from Paris, 100 from Cologne (the nearest point of the Rhine), and 300 from Lauterbrunn (the nearest point of French soil).

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—The greatest year for railway construction in the United States was 1869, in which 5,000 miles were laid. The next year to it, in rank, was 1856, in which 3,640 miles were constructed. The 5,000 miles of road constructed during the last year cost 150,000,000 dollars, or about 30,000 dollars per mile. Massachusetts has the most railways in proportion to its superficies and its population. It contains 1,489 miles of iron road on a surface of 7,800 square miles, or about 100 miles to every 526 square miles of territory. Were all the railways in that State laid down in parallel lines they would be but 5¼ miles apart, and were the entire territory of the Union as closely marked with railways as Massachusetts it would contain 600,000 miles of iron track. The new *depôt* of the Hudson River and Harlem, in New York, will be a magnificent affair in size as well as finish. It is built chiefly of iron and glass, and it will require 8,000,000lbs. of iron, and 100,000 square feet of glass. The roof is 200 feet by 652 feet. It is expected to be completed by the first of January.

NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS.—The correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* with the Red River Expedition states that before reaching Rainy Lake, and between Lac la Croix and Namenkan River, a party of interior Indians was met with. In appearance they are a fine-looking people, though emaciated and shockingly dirty. They lead a hard life, sometimes catching fish and occasionally shooting a deer or a bear, but their staple food is wild berries and the sap obtained by stripping the bark from spruce trees. It is a distinctive characteristic of these uncivilized Indians that if provisions are left in their charge and their own fall short, they will starve rather than touch those left in their care; neither will they touch provisions *cached;* but if their owner is there they will hang round his camp and beg as long as there is a chance of getting anything. Hudson's Bay men say the Indians will not work, and are entirely unamenable to instruction and advice; but this correspondent maintains that if there had been any great desire to improve the natives of the interior, it would have been found that there is little of which an Indian is not capable if properly taught and governed, though the result might have been to impair their utility as cheap hunters and outdoor servants of the company. At the mission on the Kamanistiquia, the Indians live in huts, are more cleanly in appearance and habits, cultivate the soil, and own horses or oxen. In other places, both in Canada and the United States, where white men have interested themselves in educating the Indians, the results have been satisfactory; and whatever shortcomings an Indian of the Interior may have, a want of intelligence is not one of them. At the present time there are few Indians lower in the scale of humanity than those which live on the borders of Canada. They are Pagans, knowing nothing, hoping nothing, fearing nothing. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to reclaim the adults, but they will allow their children to acquire some other knowledge than the use of a paddle. In several cases they have expressed a desire to have their sons taught trades, though they have declined to submit to any kind of education that necessitated the presence among them of a missionary. Now that the Hudson's Bay Company has assumed the aspect of a general trading company rather than a fur trading monopoly, it is possible that something will be done for the Indians of the interior by contact with white men opposing one another in trade, if not by other means.

A GAME AT CHESS.

"Is this the promised end?
Or image of that horror?"
King Lear.

I.

I've seen a picture, whose, I cannot guess;
  A dauby lithograph, but on the whole
Impressive; wherein, in a game at chess,
  The Devil plays a young man for his soul:
An awful stake, and we can guess the sequel,
The players' talents are so far from equal.

II.

But now-a-days, his Fiendship is regarded
  As half a fiction, and his ancient hold
Has been by certain parsons so bombarded,
  He may have left it, and the place grown cold;
Philosophy (too sweet to own a Devil)
Sets down all crime to "man's inherent evil."

III.

But whether this be so or not, the game,
  Or something very like it, still is played,
The sad old rune of madness, sin and shame
  Is never suffered from our souls to fade,
For crime and folly cut unseemly capers
In every column of the daily papers.

IV.

Just now, they're going on on a grand scale,
  And bear so brave a front we half admire,
But the wild cries of triumph, and of wail,
  Despairing valour, and impetuous ire,
Which follow on their march, have quite converted
Most from an admiration so perverted.

V.

For now, it seems as though the devil played
  With rulers of the world—that world the stake:
Whilst common people of a lower grade,
  As best beseems them, stand, and watch, and quake,
And sadly wonder what the end will be,
When the great game begins so terribly.

VI.

What can we do? we humble standers-by,
  Who watch the carnage, needless, mad, and blind;
To whom war seems a hideous phantasy,
  Begot in Tophet—sent to curse mankind!
We can do nothing—let the game procced,
While Satan triumphs, and the nations bleed.

D. CHRISTIE.

LITERATURE.

MADRE NATURA VERSUS THE MOLOCH OF FASHION. A Social Essay, with twenty-five illustrations, by Luke Limner, Esq. London: Bradbury, Evans, and Co.

The ladies will not read scientific disquisitions on the evils of tight lacing, and they, not unnaturally, pay but little regard to mere tirades of abuse of their sex, such as appear pretty frequently in popular weekly journals; but they can hardly refuse to give ear to one who speaks so good naturedly, with so much taste, and in a manner altogether so entertaining as does Mr. Luke Limner in this clever and amusing little book. Mr. Limner has collected a great deal of most interesting information with respect to the use—and consequences of the use—of the close corset, and his pages teem with anecdote and incident. But he is above all things an artist, and this gives him an immense advantage over mere talkers, however wise, on the subject. His frontispiece is Venus: "Unbought grace." It is a charming figure, admirably drawn. The waist is, of course, the size that nature intended, and the dimensions are such that a French corset laced round it would appear one part stays and three parts strings; but at the foot of this creature of perfect grace and comeliness lies the apple awarded by Paris. There have been beauties since the days when Venus occasionally appeared upon the earth, and, indeed, we have some amongst us now who might, were the classic competition to be repeated, enter the lists with the Goddess of Love without presumption; but they would lose the apple. Let their charms be wonderous beyond anything within the experience of Paris, the narrow waist made by the corset would inevitably disqualify them. Opposite the frontispiece, on the title page, is a very clever and humourous vignette. It is called "The Mantua-Makers' Arms," and here is its description, after the true manner of heraldry:—

> On a shield *sable*, a Corset proper; crest, upon a wreath of roses, an hour-glass *or* typical of golden hours wasted. Supporters Harpies; the dexter "Fashion," crowned with a chignon *or* corsetted and crinoletted *proper*, her train being decorated with bows, and the wings with scissors; the sinister "Vanity," crowned with a coronet of pearls and strawberry leaves, bears the wings of a papillon eyed *proper*, the queue a la Paon. Motto FASHION UNTO DEATH.

The author's pencil teaches by contrasts. On one page he pourtrays the Greek lady, in loose robes, holding the fan and tambourine and enjoying her hour of leisure; and *vis a vis* is the "girl of the period" at croquet. One is beautiful, the other only fahtastic. Next we have a pair of outlines, the one representing the "human form divine,"

> Leaving every beauty free
> To sink or swell as heaven pleases:

and the other illustrating the corresponding fashionable demoiselle, of whose waist the same poet says:

> All so close the nymph hath lac'd it,
>   Not a charm of beauty's mould
> Presumes to say where nature plac'd it.

Among the author's anecdotes appears the piquant one related by Lady Wortley Montague, who, when travelling in Turkey was pressed by the Turkish ladies to join them in a bath:—

> The lady that seemed the most considerable amongst them entreated me to sit by her, and would fain undress me for the bath. I excused myself with some difficulty. They being however all so earnest in persuading me, I was at last forced to open my shirt, and shew them my stays, which satisfied them very well, for I saw they believed I was locked up in that machine, and that it was not in my power to open it; which contrivance they attributed to my husband.

Mr. Limner's "Madre Natura" ought to be read by all the ladies and not overlooked by the gentlemen. There was never a sillier delusion than the idea that contracted waists are becoming, and we hope this little book will help to emancipate the modern mind from the superstition.

THE INNOCENTS ABROAD. By Mark Twain.
London: John Camden Hotten.

The "Innocents Abroad" is a humorous book of travel—quiet, quaint, and funny. The author has written under happy circumstances that have enabled him to chat on as many subjects as there are pages in his book. The theme is what he saw and heard whilst travelling through Europe with an excursion party, so that he can be wise and otherwise, and introduce any topic about anybody or anything without being inconsistent. The writer excels in many qualities: he can make you laugh now and then whether you care to or not he writes in easy style whereby the reader gets through many pages with little trouble, he can amuse without being absurd or vulgar, and he is always genial and instructive withal. The trip he speaks of really did take place a year or two ago. It was organised in New York on an immense scale. A steamer was to leave the port in the summer, cross the Atlantic, make the circuit of the Mediterranean, stop at the principal places along the coast of Spain, Italy, Turkey, Greece, Egypt, and Syria; the passengers were to visit Rome, Cairo, Jerusalem, and everywhere else, see everything and everybody, and all for the sum of 1250 dollars or less than £200 English. The celebrated Rev. Ward Beecher was to have formed one of the party, but did not carry out his intention. Mark Twain (Mr. Clemens) went instead, and "The Innocents Abroad" is the result of his going. It is not all set down in the book before us; there is another volume that gives an account of what the excursionists experienced in the Holy Land. It is entitled "The New Pilgrim's Progress." Mark Twain, like Artemus Ward, commenced as a journalist. He has lectured in America, and it is probable that he will follow Artemus Ward's example and visit England, before he is much older, for the purpose of lecturing. This is what we are led to expect by Edward P. Hingston in his preface, which is a most important and entertaining part of the book. As an example of Mark Twain's style we make the following quotation, taken at random:—

> By some happy fortune I was not sea-sick. That was a thing to be proud of. I had not always escaped before. If there is one thing in the world that will make a man peculiarly and insufferably self-conceited, it is to have his stomach behave itself the first day at sea, when nearly all his comrades are sea-sick. Soon a venerable fossil, shawled to the chin and bandaged like a mummy, appeared at the door of the after deck-house, and the next lurch of the ship shot him into my arms. I said—
>
> "Good-morning, sir. It is a fine day."
>
> He put his hand on his stomach and said, "*Oh* my!" and then staggered away and fell over the coop of a skylight.
>
> Presently another old gentleman was projected from the same door with great violence. I said—
>
> "Calm yourself, sir; there is no hurry. It is a fine day, sir."
>
> He also put his hand on his stomach and said "*Oh* my!" and reeled away.
>
> In a little while another veteran was discharged abruptly from the same door, clawing at the air for a saving support. I said—
>
> "Good morning, sir. It is a fine day for pleasuring. You were about to say—
>
> "*Oh* my!"
>
> I thought so. I anticipated *him* anyhow. I stayed there, and was bombarded with old gentlemen for an hour perhaps; and all I got out of any of them was, "*Oh* my!"

Mr. Hotten has brought out the work in capital style. It is neatly printed on toned paper and well bound.

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.—The Congress opens next Wednesday at Newcastle, under the presidency of the Duke of Northumberland. It is intended at this meeting to bring forward some of the more pressing questions arising out of the war. Can any system of international arbitration be devised? Can anything be done by the people of the different countries of Europe to diminish the likelihood of such another war? These questions, if not in this exact form, will come under consideration. Professor Leone Levi proposes to deal with another aspect of the question. He promises a paper on the economical results of the war. He intends to consider these results with reference to the extent and cost of international armament, and to the injury to productive labour. This ought to be an extremely interesting paper, and to attract a large audience.

PURE WATER.—ALFRED BIRD, Experimental Chemist, begs to announce that he has perfected his new CARBON FILTER, price 7s. 6d. each, which he guarantees shall deliver 60 gallons of the purest water daily.—To be seen in action at 69, Worcester Street, Birmingham. [930

ONE BOTTLE DID IT. That is the expression of many who have had their grey hair restored to its natural colour, after using one bottle of MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S World's Hair Restorer. It is not a dye, it can do no harm. Every one who has used this preparation speaks loud in its praise. If you wish to restore your hair as in youth, and retain it through life, without delay procure this preparation. Sold by all Chemists. Depot, 266, High Holborn, London, [32

TABLE TALK.

The difference between one household and another is more strongly marked in the matter of domestic conversation than in any other condition of home life. In almost all things but this the class makes the habit. If you know the position in which a man and woman move in society, you can tell beforehand with tolerable accuracy how they eat and drink, what sort of comforts they look for, how they conduct themselves in a general way before their family and friends, what their notions are of recreation, and the ordinary tone of their lives in-doors and out. But talk does not follow the same rules. It is not a class distinction; it is not an educational distinction; it is not even a distinction depending upon intelligence. It is a matter purely individual. Could you take a place unseen to-morrow morning by the side of half a dozen breakfast tables in succession, selecting them from about the same grade in social life, you would find a surprising difference in the modes and forms of converse. In one circle there would be no talk at all. The master of the house resents observations on general topics. Any subject whatever would be treated as an intruder, and experience the cold shoulder. The host at the head of the table is, perhaps, an amiable and good-tempered man, holding his wife and family in some sort of not unworthy affection, but the only place where he does not indulge in the luxury of conversation is at home. His mode of manifesting this eccentricity is different according to his position in life, but the end is the same, high and low. He is an Englishman. There is no match for him in foreign countries, and he is perfectly incomprehensible to the foreigner. How his ordinary wants and wishes are made known is a mystery of the domestic hearth. It is irksome to him to be questioned, and the questions have to reach him through some diplomatic brevity or roundaboutation. They must be put in a certain form, and that form is a study to be mastered only by the feminine intelligence. The lady of the house knows how so ingeniously to frame her requests for information and instructions that the reply may take the form of a "yes" or "no," and whether it is yes or no when it comes there is a tone in it as if the words "of course" were added, and the monosyllable includes a suspicion of expostulation. But who shall describe the poor man's mental suffering if the proper questions fail to reach him? Who can measure the injury inflicted upon him if he is literally compelled to broach a subject or to vouchsafe an explanation which is not extorted from him? Do you pity the matron living in such company? Pity the unfortunate man. There are afflictions which are purely domestic, which emanate from within the home and confine themselves within it, and which specially attack some natures. The master of many an English household is under this deplorable influence from the time he enters his own door till the time he leaves it. As soon as he gets abroad again the incubus is gone. He is as cheerful as a bird, as merry as a cricket. He positively chatters with the distant acquaintance whom he meets at the corner, and holds gossip on indifferent topics with the stranger on the knife-board of the 'bus. But return for a moment to the wife. What a voluminous store of information is acquired and imparted between this lady and the first morning caller, or the nearest friendly neighbour, according to her habits and manners of life. There is this difference between the amiable husband and his spouse, however, that she manages to impart to her lord most of what she hears. His amiability consists in permitting himself to be made the recipient of the knowledge of things in general, and people in particular with which his wife becomes possessed, and there are times indeed when his taciturnity is relaxed, when he grows communicative and confidential, and when conversational liberties may be taken with him in his own household; but the cord must be stretched very gently and carefully. His moments of weakness must not be taken advantage of. Looking on at life from the outside it is often hard to understand how a fellow creature can live out a long life in the companionship of this man or that woman: but our sympathy is usually ill-placed. It is astonishing how well some people understand each other, who, to the world, seem to be very badly matched.

This is dreadfully discursive matter, leading nowhere; but to the believer in table talk any gabble is better than none, and the only really tiresome subject is most often the "topic of the hour." Let the topic pass this week. Leave it to the leading articles, and the specials, and the translations from foreign journals. We will not cry "Vive la guerre," nor "Evviva il Re Galantuomo;" but "a bas" the man who will not chat over his own breakfast table.

"I was suffering greatly a few weeks ago from severe pains about the kidneys, and excessive weakness in the back, accompanied with nauseous sickness, confined to my bed, when a friend, who had long known and experienced great benefit from the use of Peerry Davis's Pain Killer, brought me a bottle, which I used with the most gratifying results.—A. Shirreffs, Woodside, Aberdeen, *Oct.* 24, 1867.—To Perry Davis & Son."

GOSSIP.

Charles Matthews returns to England by way of San Francisco.

The grand new opera at Vienna (remarks the *Musical Standard*) is spoken of as a partial failure.

Booth's *Rip Van Winkle* is as attractive as ever this autumn season at his theatre in New York.

Two Paris musical papers, the *Menestrel* and the *Musicale*, have ceased to appear in consequence of the troubles which have fallen on France.

Mr. James Hogg, who was the projector and editor of *London Society*, is about to start a new magazine, which is to be called *English Society*.

The "Pic-Nic" is the title of a new and pretty cantata from the pen of Mr. J. R. Thomas, of New York. The *libretto* is by Mr. George Cooper.

Miss Arabella Goddard has been lately playing (says the *Musical Standard*) at Boulogne-sur-Mer, exerting her talent in some light pianoforte music for the benefit of wounded soldiers.

Charing-cross Theatre will shortly re-open under the management of Mr. Charles H. Ross, and among the novelties to be produced is what he calls "A Realism," in three acts, by the author of "Clam" and "A Mock Tragedy."

Mr. S. C. Hall announces for early publication "A Book of Memories of Great Men and Women of the Age," with whom he has been, more or less, personally acquainted; comprising nearly all the Literary Celebrities of the present century. It will be extensively illustrated by portraits, birth-houses, homes in which they lived, and places in which they were buried.

The *Musical Standard* says that the Queen of Prussia has organised a grand concert in the Hall of the Ancient Palace of Frederic the Great, on behalf of the wounded soldiers and their families; the programme was to cost a Frederic d'or, and the artistes assisting were Mesdames Pauline Lucca, Mallinger, MM. Niemann and Betz, Joachim (violin), Tausig (piano), and others of rank among the musical.

MARSHAL BAZAINE.

The portrait of Marshal Bazaine on page 188 is from a German photograph. The unfortunate commander who was, as it were, let into a trap at Metz, from which he has struggled fiercely and at dreadful sacrifices to release himself, struggling always in vain, went into the field with a great reputation. He had fought through a brilliant career, but his life had not been without its reverses, for his operations at the head of the French army in Mexico, fighting for the hapless Maximilian, were marked by no ultimate success, and that distant campaign was for Napoleon one of the most disastrous events of his reign. Marshal Bazaine was born in 1811. At twenty years of age he joined the 37th Regiment of the line as a common soldier, and was sent to Africa, where he speedily won promotion, being a non-commissioned officer in 1832, a sub-lieutenant in 1834, and a lieutenant in 1835. He then, as captain, joined the French Foreign Legion in Spain, and fought for Queen Christina against the Carlists, earning first the position of Chef de Batallion, and afterwards that of Government Commissioner of France at the head-quarters in Spain. There for four years he carried on in Navarre, Guipuscoa, Alava, and Catalonia, a war of ambush and surprise which taught him the severe profession of arms, and rendered him celebrated among fighting men. On returning to Algeria, young Bazaine shewed energy and perseverance in the difficult irregular movements against the Kabyles, who have at one time or another caused the French occupation in Northern Africa so much annoyance. His promotion was far from rapid. He was near forty before he won his colonelcy; but, at the outbreak of the Crimean War, in 1854, he was put at the head of an infantry brigade, and displayed excellent capacity during the operations of that and the following year. The despatches of Canrobert and Pelissier make frequent mention of his personal bravery and skill in the manipulation of the troops under his command; and though not winning the same brilliancy of distinction that awaited some more fortunate competitors, he was made General of Division on the fall of Sebastopol, and was left for some time in charge of the captured town. But it was in Mexico, notwithstanding the ultimate failure of the expedition, that Bazaine won his greatest honours. He succeeded Tarcy in command of the French forces in that distracted country, and by a vigorous and successful campaign he seated Maximilian on the throne as Emperor. In the course of his operations he seized Xalapa, the important post midway between the capital city of Mexico and the Port of Vera Cruz, and he was for a time, and so long as he was not troubled by external interference, too much for Juarez. Bazaine, however, was too wise to recommend a continuation of the struggle after the United States Government had declared against French intervention in South America, and in a council, presided over by Maximilian, he deprecated further resistance. On his return to France he was made a Marshal, and the command of the French army of the Rhine was put into his hands shortly after the commencement of the present campaign. But he has been out-numbered and out-generalled in this war, and his position now, after a long and honourable career, is a most unenviable one.

THE TURKISH BATH.

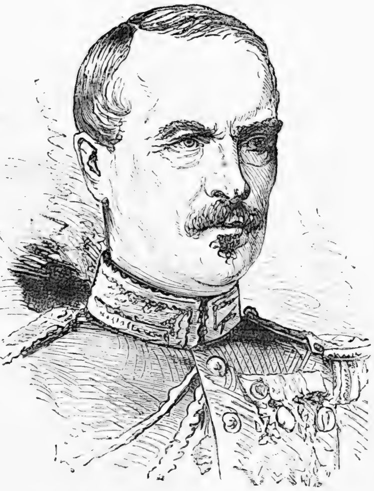
Mr. Melling's Turkish Baths have been established in Birmingham for ten years, and therefore we cannot hope to afford the public any new information with respect to this method of securing and preserving health. We have, however, been invited by the proprietor this week to visit his Baths in Cambridge-crescent, for the purpose of inspecting certain improvements he has introduced, not so much in the machinery and system of the establishment as in the convenience and decoration of the various apartments through which the patient passes from the time that he enters the disrobing room till his return to it an hour and a half later, and this affords us an opportunity of briefly referring to the process of the bath for the benefit of those who have not yet made trial of it. In the basement of the building is a large, peculiarly constructed furnace, kept up to a point of intense heat, and over the furnace are air chambers to which a body of air is conducted. The heated air is passed then through a nine inch tube to the upper stories of the edifice, and belched into the rooms that require to be heated for the purposes of the bath. There are three sets of rooms for three different classes of bathers. One is a first-class bath, the second is for ladies, and the third for the working classes, for which the charge is reduced to a shilling. There is no difference in the process between one suite of rooms and the others, but the first-class is better fitted up and adorned than the third, and the second is furnished in a manner suitable for ladies. We go through the process in a first-class bath. We begin in a room which is kept at a comfortable domestic temperature. This is called the cooling room, and is furnished with couches, separated by curtains. Here the bather disrobes, and is supplied with a very sparse article of drapery. He is then introduced to an apartment called the "tepidarium," in which the atmosphere is very warm. In the wall on one side of the room, just above the skirting, is the mouth of a six inch pipe, whence issues a stream of hot air from the furnace below, and in the ceiling is a ventilator. The temperature of the apartment is 130 degrees. Here we recline upon a wooden machine in the form of a couch and perspire, drinking cold water occasionally to assist in the work. Hot as the air is the breathing is not impeded, and the time passes very comfortably. The apartment is paved with Minton's tiles, it is lighted with a coloured glass window, the walls are panelled with glazed marble paper, and there are busts of Milton, Shakespeare, and other celebrities on brackets by way of adornment. After about twenty minutes we pass to the next apartment, the "Calidarium," which is similarly furnished and fitted, but is supplied with air from the furnace by a larger pipe, and the heat was, on this occasion, as high as 174 degrees. A steak would cook in the room, but the living body only perspires, and the sensation, though unusual, is not disagreeable. The paved floor is too hot for the naked feet except where it is covered with carpet; the temperature of the walls is almost too much for the hand; there is a feeling of burning at the nostrils on inhalation; and the hair of the head scorches the fingers that are passed through it. Of course the perspiration of the healthy body is excessive. From this we pass to a much cooler apartment and undergo shampooing, which consists simply of the friction of the hand over the body with the aid of tepid water. The last operation is a shower bath, warm at first and gradually changing to cold, and then we rub ourselves dry and repair to the disrobing room by a new route, to avoid returning by the hot apartments. The disrobing room is also the robing room and cooling room. Here we lie on a couch, and accustom ourselves to an ordinary temperature for a short time, and then dress and go about our business, feeling very much refreshed. Many healthy persons take these baths as a luxury, and as a preservative of health, but many more as a cure for rheumatism, gout, colds, bronchitis, sore throat, affections of the liver and kidneys, &c., and by the general testimony of the experienced the baths are a very effective remedy for those complaints. In the same establishment are vapour baths, sulphur baths for skin diseases, &c. For many years Mr. Melling carried on the baths in Birmingham, persevering though he met with very moderate encouragement; but the process has grown much more popular during the last year or two, and hence the improvements that have been introduced.

Sir Rowland Hill.—The Birmingham Exchange has just been enriched by the presentation of a memorial statue to the great postal reformer, Sir Rowland Hill (a native of Birmingham), which was formally unveiled and handed over to the Exchange authorities on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. Sampson Lloyd, acting on behalf of the subscribers to the memorial fund. The statue, which is by Mr. Peter Hollins, of Birmingham, is in Carrara marble, six feet nine inches high, and stands on a four feet pedestal of Sicilian marble. Sir Rowland stands in an easy attitude, slightly inclining to the right of the spectator, with his left arm resting on a plinth in his rear, and his right grasping a roll of postage stamps. On the front face of the pedestal, a bas relief in Carrara marble illustrates the value of the penny postage institution in a homely cottage scene representing a poor woman stricken down with sickness, rising from her couch to receive the welcome letter from her absent husband which the postman has just brought in. In presenting the statue to Mr. Van Wart, the Chairman of the Birmingham Exchange, Mr. Lloyd briefly alluded to the origin of the memorial, which was due to the suggestion of a relative of his own now deceased. He added that it was unnecessary to enlarge on the virtues of Sir Rowland, or on the immense benefits conferred by the postal reform he had initiated, on the nation and on mankind. Sir Rowland, it would be remembered, had been born and educated in their town, and it was fitting therefore that the tribute of Birmingham to his memory should be the work of a local artist. The statue having been unveiled amid applause, Mr. H. Van Wart briefly acknowledged the gift on behalf of the Birmingham Exchange, and the ceremony ended.

INTERESTING ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERY.

The Rev. Canon Greenwell has been engaged for the last three years is in investigating certain curious depressions of soil near the small town of Brandon in Suffolk, and a few days since he gave an account of his discoveries at a special meeting of the Ethnological Society of London. The holes or depressions, which have been the subjects of a good deal of curiosity, both scientific and unscientific, for many years, are basin shaped, and they have generally been thought to be the remains of an ancient village which was partly sunk into the soil. Brandon has long been the centre of a flint trade, formerly for guns and until now for building purposes, and the country in the neighbourhood of these depressions abounds with flint implements and flakes. The hollows are known by the name of "Grime's Graves." From the Rev. Canon Greenwell's paper it appears the "graves" have proved to be the shafts (in which the filling-in materials have settled) of extensive underground flint mines, to which the shafts are upwards of 200 in number, and generally about 25 feet apart. The old shafts appear to have been successfully filled up by the *debris* from the new ones throughout the group, which, having settled, now present the appearance of bowl-shaped depressions, about four feet deep, and have been variously regarded as graves, villages, &c. The one investigated was 28 feet in diameter at the mouth, and narrowed gradually to 12 feet diameter at the bottom, which was 39 feet below the surface. At the bottom was the stratum of pure flint, seven inches in thickness, the working of which had led to this extensive series of mines. After the flint had been removed from the bottom, galleries were driven in all directions, being mostly about three feet in height, in the chalk above the flint, and varying from three feet to seven feet in width. The flint was worked upon the bottom and under the sides as much as possible. The galleries ran one into another, and extended also from shaft to shaft. There is little doubt that the whole area occupied by the "Grime's Graves" is a complete network of underground galleries, which, judging from the remarkable finds made by Mr. Greenwell, would yield a vast quantity of ancient remains. The laborious work of sinking the shafts, evacuating the galleries, and getting up the flint, had been done by picks made of the antler of the red deer, of a larger species than now lives in Scotland. These picks were made from about 16 inches to 18 inches of the main horn and the brow tine, and upwards of 80, independently of fragments, were found in the workings, in all stages of wear. The burr ends of the horns had also been used as hammers. Throughout the workings only one stone hammer was found, and that of basalt. The marks made by it could be fitted on the sides of the chalk walls, and pick marks were abundant everywhere. One bone pin and a bone, instrument bruised at the ends, were also found. The extensive mining operations could not have been carried on in the dark, and it is believed that several small pieces of chalk containing cups, one of which was placed on a ledge of projecting chalk, were lamps used by the ancient miners. In one gallery two picks were found at the end, lying point to point, as if used by a left-handed and a right-handed man, and laid down at the end of a day's work. The roof of this gallery had fallen in, and the *débris* had never been removed till recently, when the tools of the ancient workmen were found as left, perhaps, 3,000 years ago. Singularly no pottery was found. Nearly the whole of the implements used by the miners were made from the shed horns of the red deer, and, with one exception, all from the burr end. These were found in the shaft, but more numerously in the workings. The people who fabricated the flint implements seemed to have lived on the spot, and to have thrown their refuse down the old mine shafts; for, at various depths, were found the split bones of the ox (the small *bos longifrons*), the goat, sheep, pig, and dog—the latter the only carnivora. From the fauna and other points, the rev. explorer places the age of these ancient mines in the early part of the Neolithic (later stone) period before metal was generally known in Britain. It is a curious fact that the ancient method of getting the flint as indicated in this discovery is exactly like that which is pursued in the present day. The chalk lies within six feet of the surface, and the workmen sink a shaft to that depth, and then run a gallery about three feet in a horizontal direction, sink another 6 feet shaft into the chalk, and sometimes fall in with a rich layer of flint at this depth, but if they do not they go on sinking shafts and galleries, to the depth it may be of 30 feet, with many yards of galleries. The flint is found in large masses and is broken into pieces by the workmen and handed from stage to stage of the working.

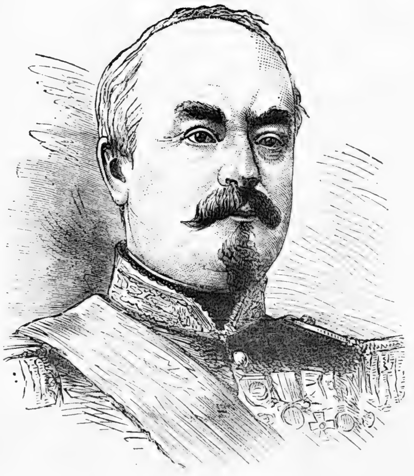
Important.—14, Carr's Lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. Twenty-five per cent saved in value. [24



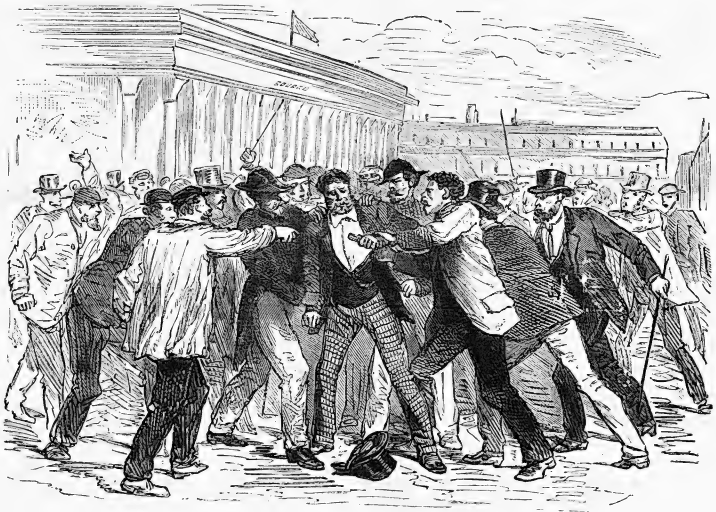
GENERAL FROSSARD.—From a German Photograph. *(See page 181.)*

THE ARREST OF A PRUSSIAN SPY.

The sketch in the centre of this page is that of a scene which has been too often enacted in Paris. It is the arrest of a supposed Prussian spy. The police and the crowd are merciless in these cases, and there is not much law or justice for the accused. That espionage has been carried to great lengths in this war by the Prussians there cannot be a doubt, but the French police have not been very successful in discovering German spies. Only one man has been convicted and shot in Paris, and he was lunatic. The spy-system in connection with the German campaign is reported by the French newspapers to be under the control of General Blumenthal, whom they call chief of the army of spies. Every day, it is said, Blumenthal receives the most exact intelligence of what is going on in the French army, in Paris, and in the departments. He receives his despatches in cipher, and when his correspondents make use of the telegraph they send what appear to be messages of common import, but they are so worded that the letters, re-arranged by the receiver, have a concealed meaning.



MARSHAL BAZAINE. *(See page 187.)*

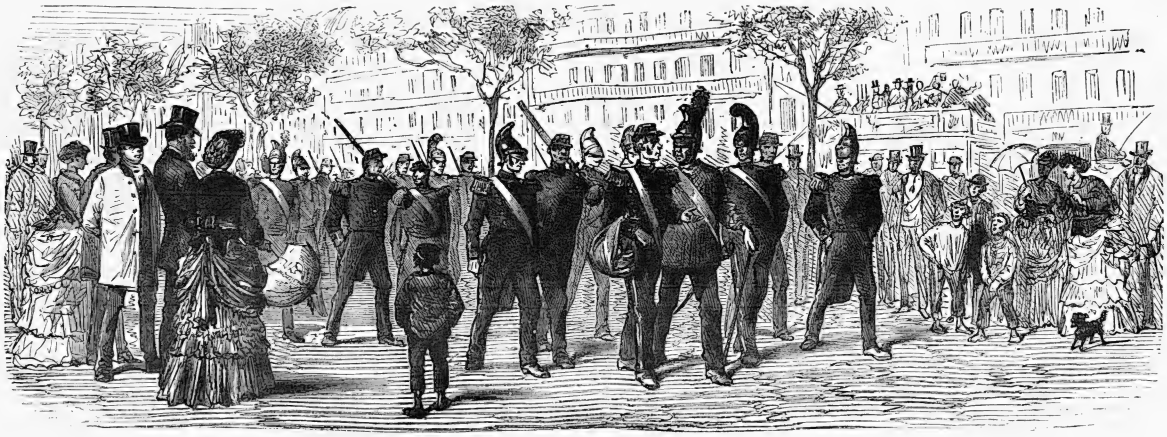


ARREST OF A SPY IN PARIS.

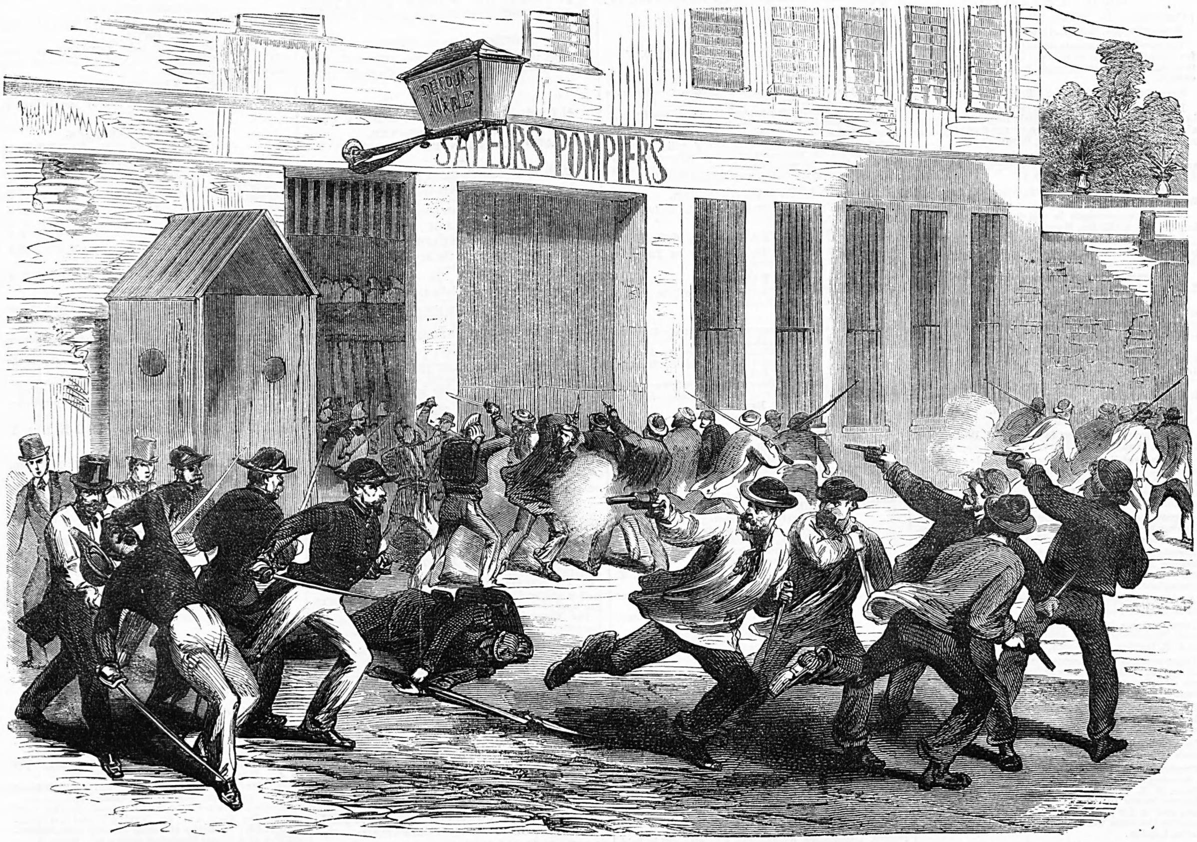
FRENCH FIREMEN.

The *pompiers*, or firemen of France are a disciplined body, armed and commanded like a military force. Soon after the outbreak of war the firemen of provincial France assembled in large numbers in Paris. So many have never before been seen at once in the city. They came from Bretagne, Picardy, Touraine, Poitou, and from the central and eastern departments. The Minister for War had made an appeal to their patriotism in a letter addressed to the Prefects, and the firemen of the towns and villages of France betook themselves at once to Paris, asking no questions. Their country had need of their services, and that was enough. Some wore coats, some tunics, some blouses; some were covered with shakos, some with helmets, and some with caps. They carried guns, good, bad, and indifferent. A few had nothing but bent sabres. All, however, we are told, possessed valiant hearts, and were inspired with a sentiment of patriotism. The *pompiers* were well receeived in Paris. Our engraving below is from a sketch of their passage through the streets. These firemen were called to Paris in consequence of certain fears which had got abroad with respect to the safety of the city, and after a time the useful force was relegated back to the provinces, having undergone review and certain reforms having been introduced into the system of management. The time seems to have come when the firemen of France should be recalled to Paris.

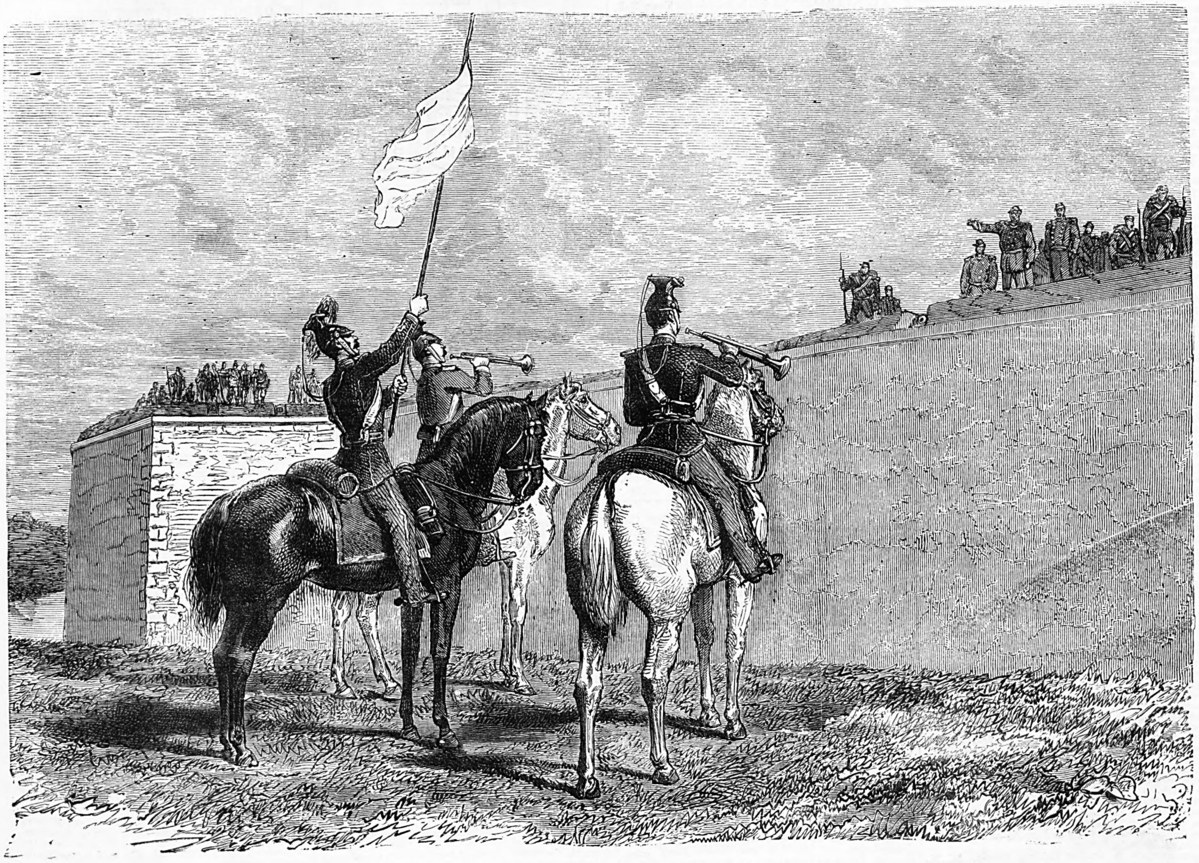
Smallpox among the French Soldiers.—Smallpox which has been so common in France, and especially in Paris, is prevalent also in the French army. Five of the wounded French now in the hospitals of Berlin were seized with it, and were taken to the smallpox wards of the Charité Hospital; two of them died. The invasion of France by the German armies will be a test, on the largest scale, of the efficiency of the vaccination and re-vaccination performed on every recruit of the Prussian army.--*British Medical Journal.*



ARRIVAL OF FIREMEN AT PARIS FROM THE PROVINCES.


SECOURS
SAPEURS POMPIERS

ATTACK UPON THE FIREMEN'S BARRACKS AT VILETTE. *(See page 179.)*



CITY OF TOUL REFUSING TO SURRENDER. *(See page 179.)*

NEW PATENTS.

(Contributed by Messrs. Payne and Talbot, 1, Bennett's-hill, and 56, Ann-street, Birmingham.)

Improved arrangements or combinations of machinery for finishing threads or yarns of cotton or other fibrous materials. O. Ormrod and R. Hall, Eagley, Lancashire.

Improvements in firearms. T. Newton, Manchester.

Improvements in vulcanisers or apparatus employed in vulcanising india-rubber, which improvements may also be applied to the regulation of the flow of gas for various purposes. G. Jackson, Birmingham.

An improved apparatus for the manufacture of sugar. J. Connell, London. (A communication from T. Sorensen, Ebeltoft, Denmark.)

Improvements in lawn edge clippers. G. Townsend, Wimbish, Essex.

Certain improvements in watches and other time keepers. S. McKellen, Manchester.

Improvements in appartus for raising and lowering heavy bodies. W. Arkell, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Improvements in hand trucks. R. S. Prowse, and H. Duke, Liverpool.

Improvements in or connected with the manufacture of blackening for foundry purposes, and in the means or apparatus employed therefor. F. Pattison, Glasgow, Lanarkshire.

Improvements in collars and saddles for horses and other animals. C. Stockbridge, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Improvements in looms for weaving. J. C. Ramsden, Bradford, Yorkshire.

Improvements in sizing machines. E. and J. Dugdale, Blackburn, Lancashire.

An improved buckle or fastening. J. Beckett and R. Seyers, Wandsworth, Surrey.

Improvements in the construction of roads and ways, and in the materials employed therein, which materials are also applicable to other purposes for which asphalte is generally employed. J. H. Johnson, London. (A communication from L. Wiart, Paris.)

Improvements in maintaining, controling, and registering the pressure in hydraulic presses, and in apparatus connected therewith. T. Virtue, Liverpool.

Certain improvements in machinery or appliances for reducing bones, hoofs, horns, and other like animal matter to small particles. G. and E. and Atkins, Birmingham.

An improved clog for roughing horses. W. Nicholson and D. Hopkins, London.

Improvements in revolving firearms. H. W. Hammond, Manchester. (A communication from C. F. and J. E. Dartien, Strasbourg, France.)

Improvements in appartus for evaporating, concentrating, and distilling liquids and in recovering reagents from oil refiners and other by-products. F. A. Barrow, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, N.B.

Improvements in lithographic, zincographic, and other printing presses. E. T. Hughes, London. (A communication from E. Parker, New Haven, U.S.)

Improvements in producing photographic pictures on tissues or fabrics. C. Janicot, Paris.

Improvements in machinery or apparatus for cutting or dressing stones. R. Girdwood, Edinburgh, Midlothian, N. B.

Improvements in the manufacture of boxes and cases, and in the modes or means of ornamenting and rendering the same wet-resisting or damp-proof. W. Austin, London.

Improvements in machinery or apparatus for the manufacture of ropes, cords, and wire ropes. W. Guest, London,

An improved combined carving fork and knife sharpener. G. Kent, London.

Improvements in obtaining and applying iron and manganese protoxides or their carbonates, in obtaining and applying baryta, strontia, and salts thereof, in obtaining potash, soda, and sulphur, and in utilising bye or waste products arising in the manufacture of chlorine, copper, and alum. J. Townsend, Glasgow. Lanarkshire, N.B.

Improvements in machinery for grinding and polishing saws, also applicable for grinding and polishing sheets or plates of steel and other metals. C. D. Abel, London. (A communication from W. J. Lippincott, Ohio, U.S.)

Improvements in the construction of railways. G. A. Huddart, Brynkir, Carnarvonshire.

Improvements in machines for doubling and spinning. J. Drabble, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, and J. S. Raworth, Manchester.

Improvements in the method of working check straps in looms for weaving. C. B. Parkinson and J. Metcalf, Preston, Lancashire.

Improvements in the manufacture of illuminating gas. W. Young, Magdalen-bridge, Midlothian, N.B., and P. Brash, Leith, Midlothian, N.B.

Improvements in structures for the preservation of fruits, vegetables, meats, and other perishable articles. J. H. Johnson, London. (A communication from N. Hellings, Pennsylvania, U.S.)

Improved apparatus to be employed in the performance of gymnastic exercises. H. E. Newton, London. (A communication from W. Hanlon, New York, U.S.)

Improvements in machinery or apparatus for raising and lowering heavy bodies. J. Craven, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

An improved mode of preparing certain organic bases and producing colouring matters. C. Bardy and L. Dusart, Paris.

Improvements in coal vases. C. H. Perman, Birmingham.

An improved faucet. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from J. Oarey, New Jersey, U.S.)

Improvements in screws and screw-drivers, and in machinery for the manufacture of screws. J. Frearson, Birmingham.

Improvements in the manufacture of steel. J. Mason, Erdington, and A. Parkes, Gravelly-hill, Birmingham.

Improvements in the manufacture of paper. A. E. Reed, Henleys Wookey, Somersetshire.

Improvements in furnace grate and in apparatus connected therewith for heating water for steam boilers and for other like purposes. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from C. E. Husson, Missouri, U.S.)

(Patents upon which the £50 Stamp Duty has been paid).

Certain new and useful improvements having reference to wire heddles for loom harness, and particularly the construction, manufacture, and support of such. D. C. Brown, Massachusetts, U.S. (A communication from J. Ashworth, Massachusets, U.S.)

Improvements in machinery for washing ores, grain, wool, and other mineral, vegetable, and animal substances. C. Mather, Manchester.

Improvements in apparatus used in the manufacture of salt. J. Davies, Bowden, Cheshire.

Improvements in saws. W. E. Newton, London. (A communication from J. E. Emerson, New Jersey, U.S.)

Improvements in wine glasses, and in stands or holders for the same. J. M. Napier, Lambeth, Surrey.

Improvements in the manufacture or production of lace made on bobbin net or twist lace machines. W. Brailsford and J. Gadsby, Nottingham.

Improvements in the mode of covering roof with slate or other materials, which improvements are applicable also to the covering or forming of walls. W. le Duc, St. Helier's, Jersey.

Improvements in circular knitting frames. H. M. Mellor, Nottingham.

Improvement in the manufacture of iron and steel and furnaces therefor. S. Dalton, Chester.

BIRMINGHAM & MIDLAND INSTITUTE.

PROGRAMME FOR SESSION
BEGINNING THIS WEEK.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Annual Subscribers of One Guinea are entitled to Admission the News Room, the Conversazione, the Monday Evening Lectures, the Inaugural Address, the Christmas Holiday Lectures, the History and Literature Classes of the Industrial Department, and the Monthly Meetings of the Archæological Section, and to join the Excursions of the Section. They may take out Tickets for the use of Resident Members of their Families, entitling them to all the privileges of Subscribers—except admission to the News Room—at 10s. per annum for the first Ticket, and 5s. for each additional Ticket.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered by the President,

DR. LYON PLAYFAIR, C.B., M.P., &c.,

in the Town Hall, at Eight o'clock, on THURSDAY EVENING, the 29th of September inst.

LECTURES.

N.B.—The Lectures for this Session will be given in the Masonic Hall, New Street.

1870.		
October	3 10	The Movements of Gases.—Professor ODLING, M.B., F.R.S.
,,	17 24	Extinct Animals intermediate between Reptiles and Birds.—Professor HUXLEY, L.L.D., F.R.S., &c.
,, November	31 7	Erasmus Darwin and Anna Seward, their Works and their Friends.—GEORGE DAWSON, Esq., M.A.
,,	14 21	Modern History.—Professor SEELEY, M.A.
,,	28	The Trustworthy Portraits of the Rival Queens, Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots.—GEO. SCHARF, Esq., F.S.A.
December	5	—Arrangements not completed.
1871.		
January	16	Decorative Art.—E. J. POYNTER, Esq., A.R.A.
,,	23	The Revival of Learning.—W. G. CLARK, Esq., M.A., Vice-Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.
,,	30	The Funeral Rites of the Ancients.—C. T. NEWTON, Esq., M.A.
February	6	The Public Games of the Greeks.—C. T. NEWTON, Esq, M.A.
,,	13	Primitive Civilization.—E. B. TYLOR, Esq., V.P., Ethnological Society.
,,	20	The Music and Musicians of the Future. —THOS. ANDERTON, Esq., Mus. Bac.
,, March	27 6	The Spirit of English War Literature—past and present.—Prof. HY. MORLEY.
,,	13 20	The Astronomy of Comets.—Professor ROBERT GRANT, LL.D., F.R.S.
,,	27	War Ships and their Guns.—E. J. REED, Esq., C.B., late Chief Constructor of the Navy.
April	3 10	Recent Researches in Physical Science.—W. F. BARRETT, Esq., F.C.S.
,,	17 24	Jean Jacques Rosseau.—GEORGE DAWSON, Esq., M.A.

Each Lecture will begin at Eight o'clock.

NEWS ROOM.

The News Room is open to Subscribers every day from Nine a.m. till Ten p.m.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

Monthly Meetings of the Section for reading of Papers, Discussions, Exhibitions, &c., &c., will be held during the Session, at Eight o'clock on Thursday Evenings, in the Secretary's Office.

Excursions to places of Archæological interest will be arranged during the summer months.

CONVERSAZIONE.

A CONVERSAZIONE will be held in the Town Hall, on the Evening of WEDNESDAY, 14th of December.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY LECTURES.

A Course of Five Lecteres on "Light" will be delivered by Mr. C. J. WOODWARD, B.Sc., in the Lecture Theatre, at Half-past Three o'clock, on the Afternoons of the following Days:—

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1870.
Saturday, Dec. 31, 1870.
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1871.
Saturday, Jan. 7, 1871.
Wednesday, Jan. 11, 1871.

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The following Classes meet during the present week: Mechanics; Practical, Plane, and Solid Geometry; Magnetism and Electricity, Vegetable Anatomy and Physiology, Geology, Practical Chemistry (three classes), Latin, French, German, English Literature, English Grammar, Writing, English History, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Mensuration, and Advanced Singing. (Fee, 2s. 6d. a Term.)

The Fee to each of these Classes, except as above stated, is 3s. 6d. a Term of fifteen lessons. There are Two Terms in the Session. Students under fourteen years of age not admitted to the above classes. The first lesson in each class is open to the public free of charge.

PENNY CLASSES.

CLASSES in Arithmetic, (Elementary and Advanced,) Chemistry, (Elementary and Adanced stages,) Animal Physiology, Physical Geography, and Elementary Singing also began this week.

Fee to each Class One Penny per Lesson.

All the Classes are open to Females.

Subscriptions and Class Fees (payable in advance) may be paid to, and Programmes obtained from

EDWIN SMITH, *Secretary*.

Office of the Institute, Ratcliff Place.

SUPERIOR PAPIER MACHIE.—A large assortment of Trays, Waiters, Inkstands, Desks, Blotters, Caddies, Card Trays, Work Boxes, and other Articles, may be seen at MAPPLEBECK and LOWE's Show Rooms, Birmingham. [25

THE MUSICAL ART-UNION, under the Sanction and Control of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

The PRIZES at the approaching Distribution will consist of valuable PIANOFORTES, and other Musical Instruments, Books, &c. Tickets (1s. each) and prospectuses can be had of any of the agents, or direct from the offices, 22, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C., on sending stamps or Post Office Order made payable to Wm. A. Smith, at the Charing Cross Office.

The following are some of the Agencies:—

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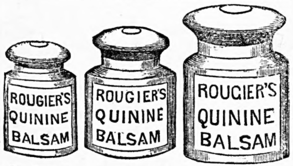

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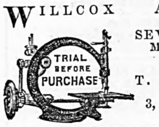

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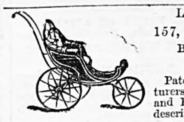

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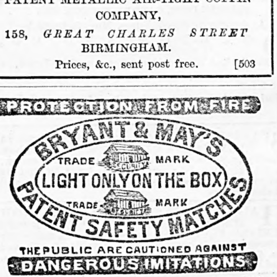

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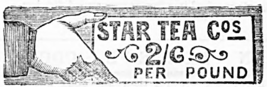

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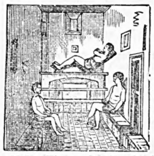

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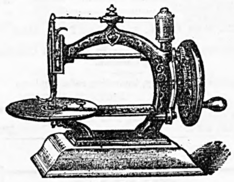

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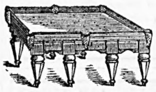

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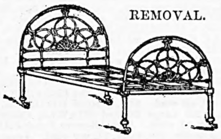

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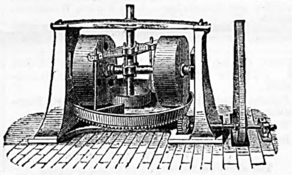

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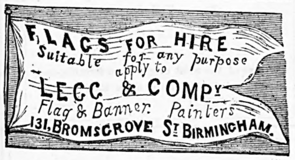

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